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CLAMP

9784063757330

1929979005337

雑誌 46301-33

ISBN978-4-06-375733-0

C9979 ¥533E (0)

講談社／定価：本体533円(税別)

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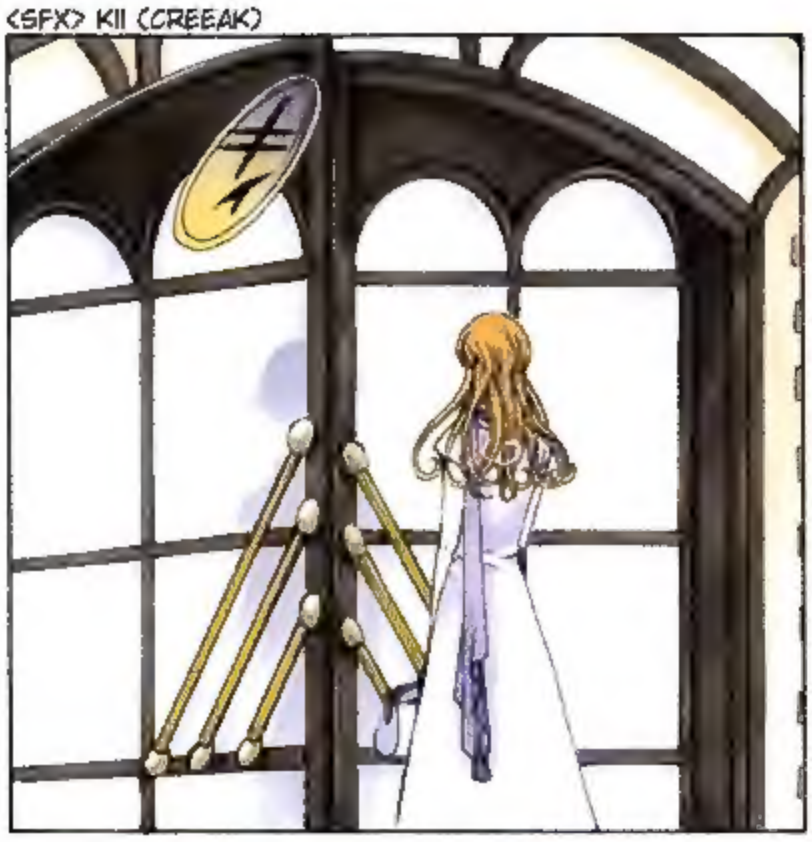
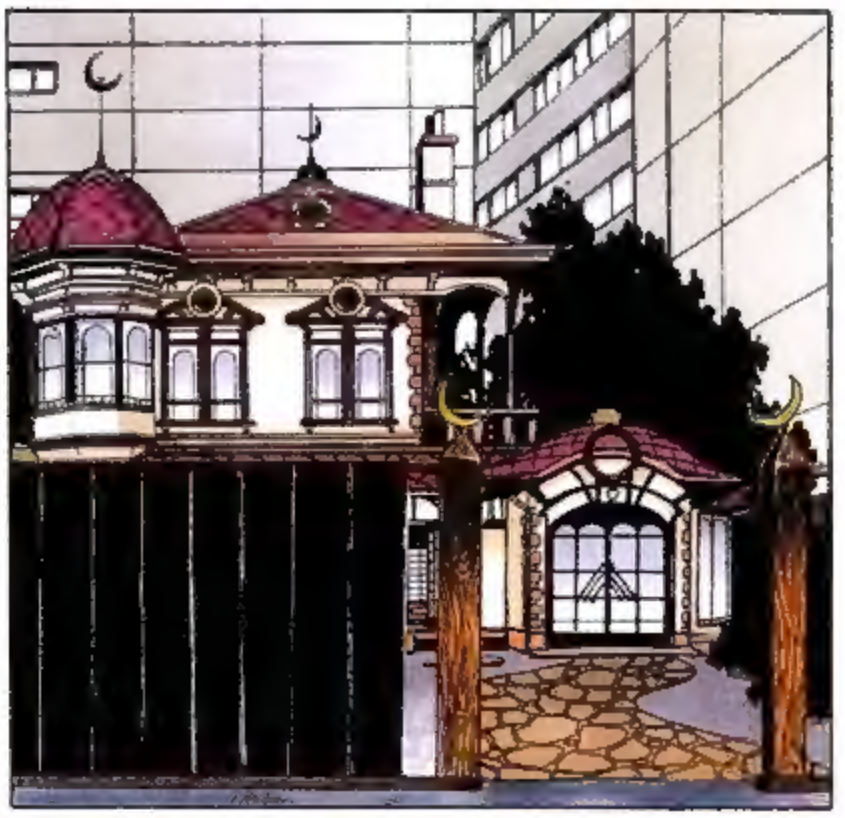
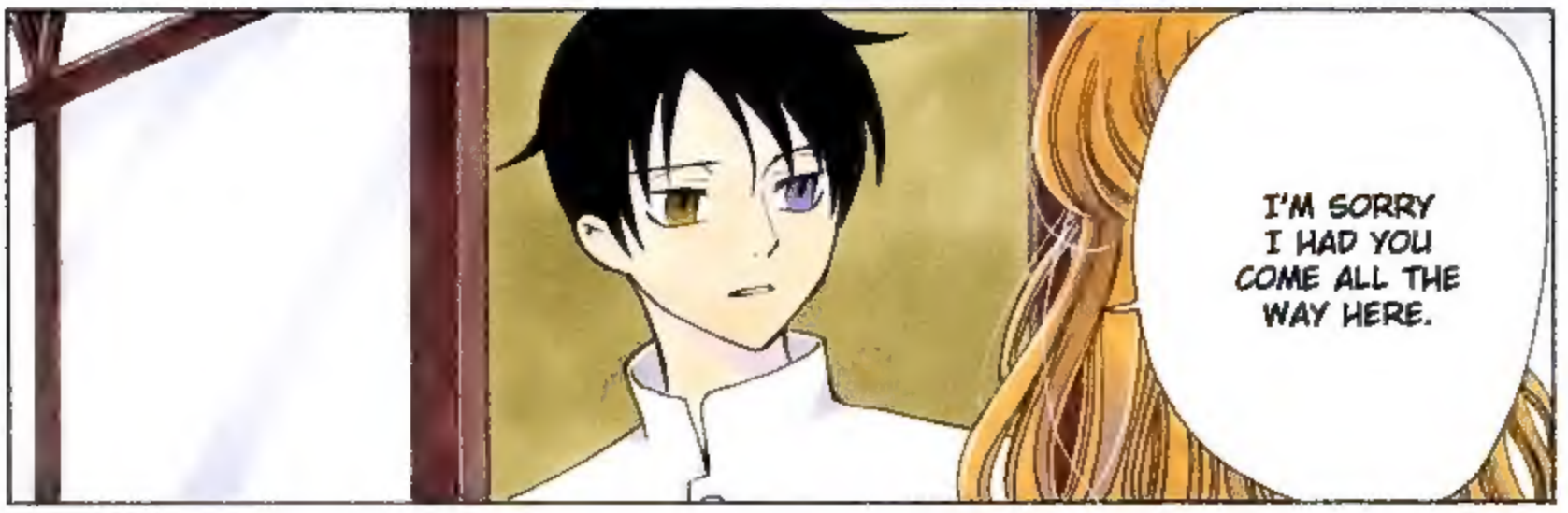
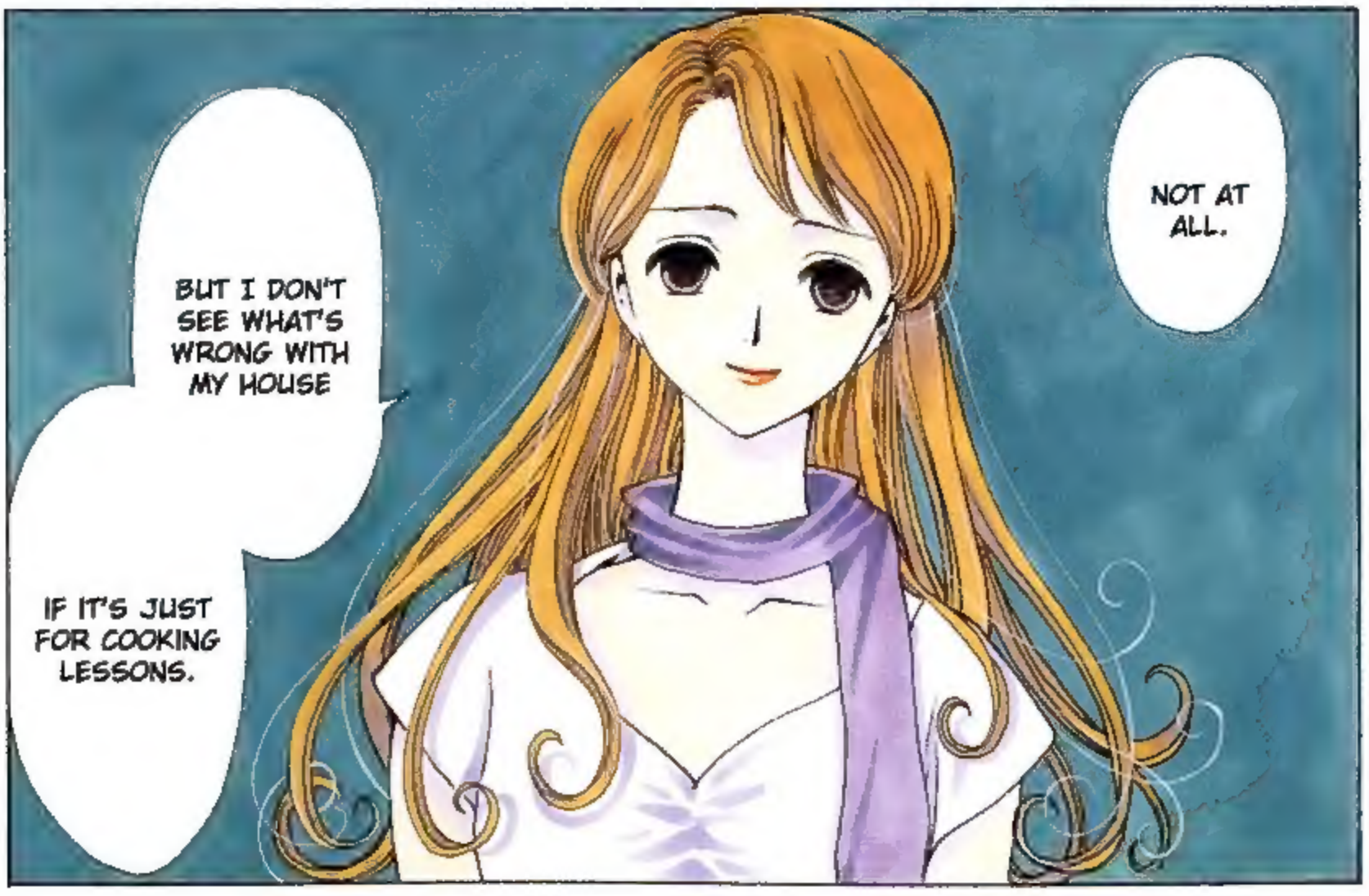
Author	**CLAMP**
Publisher	**Kodansha**
ISBN	**978-4063757330**

<SFX> KII (CREEAK)









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COOK HERE?

...YES.

BUT...

I UNDER-STAND.

AREN'T YOU GIVING HER LESSONS AT HER OWN HOUSE?

YES,

YEAH YEAH.

I'VE ALREADY DONE THE PREP WORK FOR BONITO SHIGURENI.

USAGE FEE WILL BE SOME OF THE RESERVED SAKE ALONG WITH SNACKS MADE WITH ALL OF WATANUKI'S MIGHT.

BWYS NOTE: SHIGURENI IS A CLASSIC METHOD OF COOKING MEAT IN A SAVORY-SWEET GINGER SAUCE.

NO.

FOR HER LESSON...

IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO TEACH HER TO MAKE?

OMUSUBI?

YES.

BWYS NOTE: OMUSUBI IS ANOTHER TERM FOR ONIGIRI.

THAT'S TRUE,

BUT TODAY, I WANT THE FOOD YOU MAKE TO BE EATEN.

WELL,

IN THAT CASE, I THINK I CAN MAKE THEM EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T TEACH ME HOW.

BY YOU, THAT IS.

<SFX> KUI (SWIG)

Do you think she'll eat it?

She came.

YEAH.

SOMEHOW.

HE'LL MAKE IT HAPPEN.

<SFX> NI (GRIN)

Cheers!

YEAH.

とくとく

<SFX> TOKU TOKU (GLUG)

YOU DON'T WANT TO EAT IT, RIGHT?

BECAUSE YOU FIND FOOD THAT YOU'VE MADE TO BE REPULSIVE.

FOOD THAT I'VE MADE...

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU,

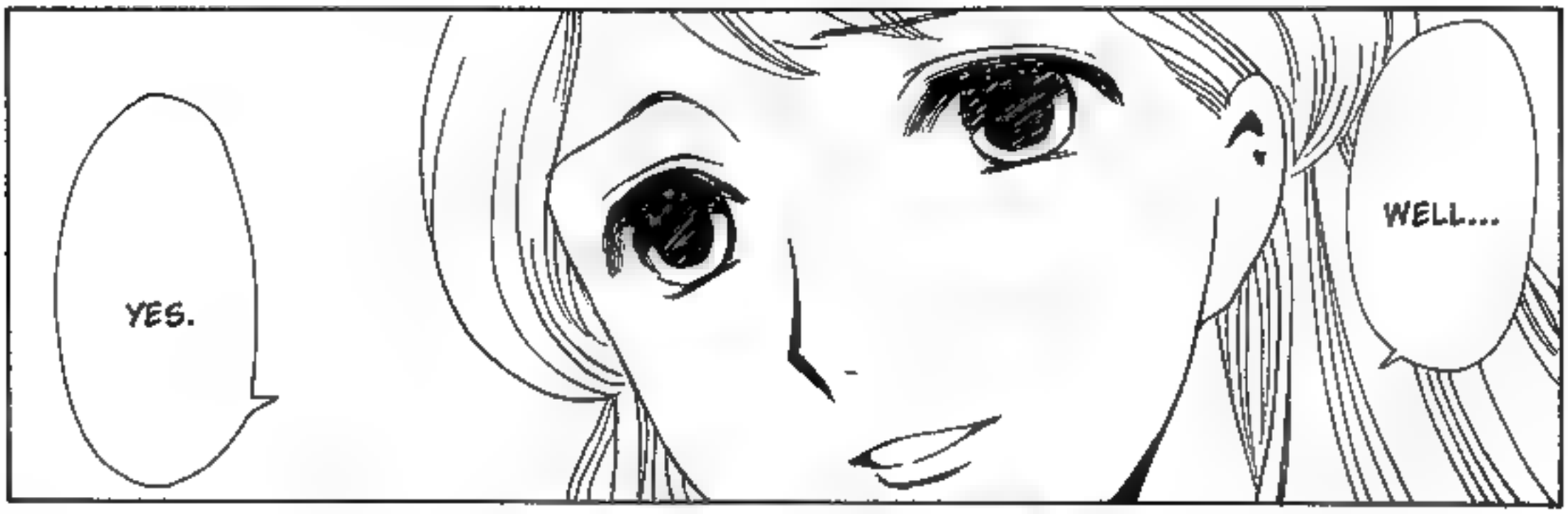
LOOKING AT YOURSELF.

YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT, AREN'T YOU?

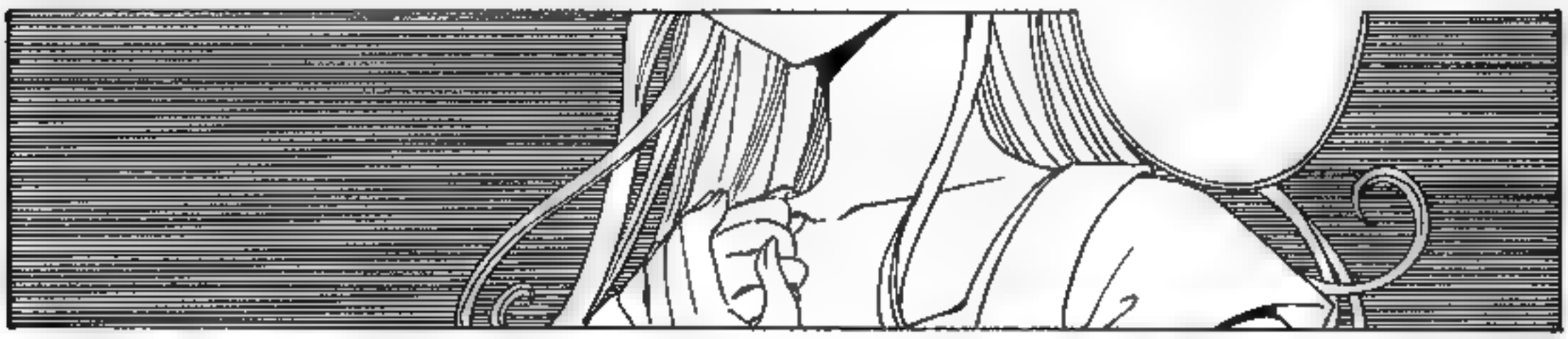
THAT'S RIGHT.

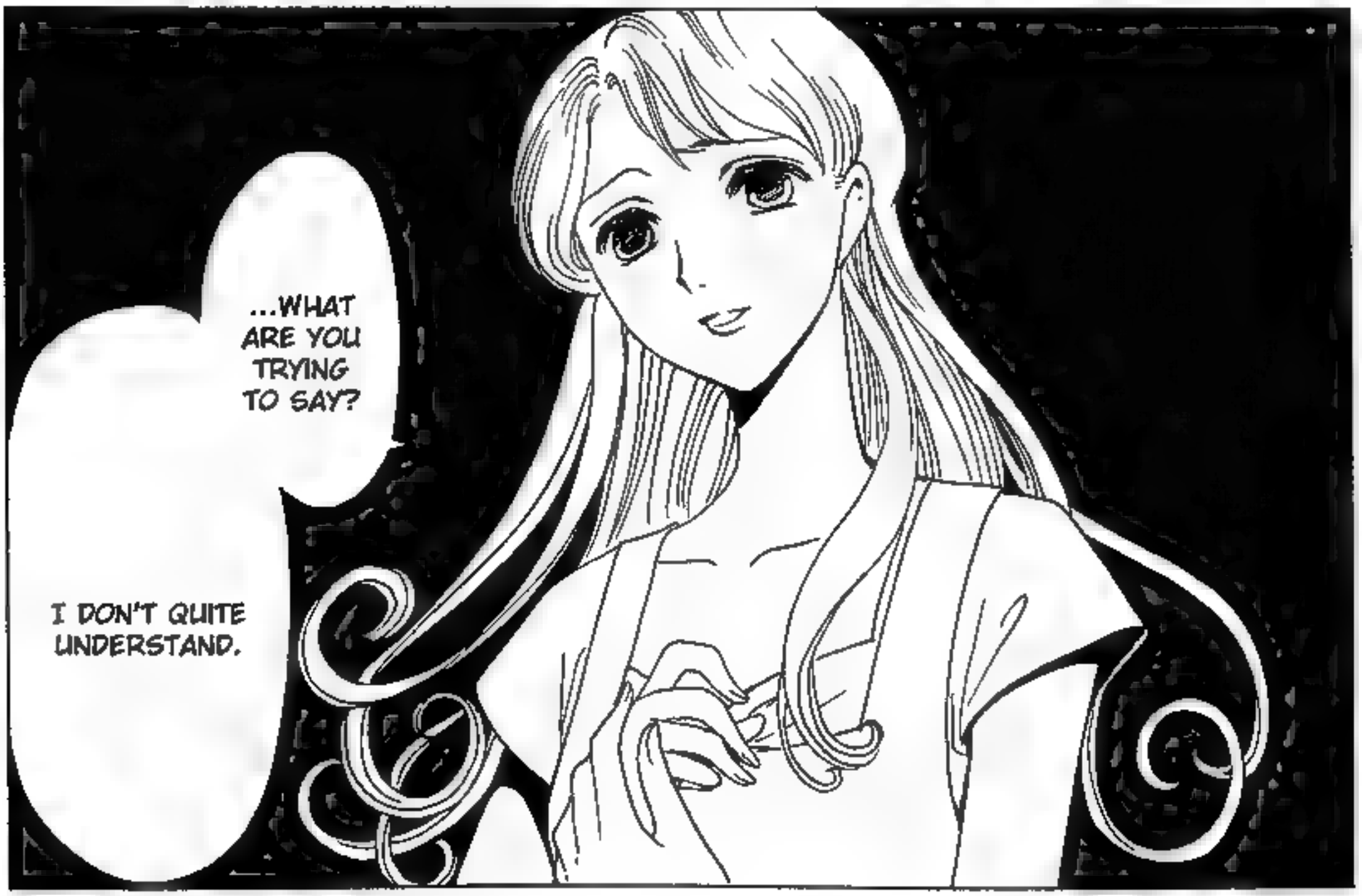
ARE YOU OKAY WITH LOOKING?

HUH?


YES.
WELL...

AND TOUCHING YOURSELF
IS ALSO OKAY, RIGHT?




...WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND.

HELLO.

HELLO.

HEY.

THOUGH I CAME BECAUSE WATANUKI-KUN INVITED ME.

ぴょん

<SFX> PYON (BOUNCE)

I MET KOHANE-CHAN ON MY WAY HERE.

SHE WAS ALSO ON HER WAY TO YUUKO-SAN'S SHOP, SO WE WALKED TOGETHER.

こくり

<SFX> KOKU (NOD)

IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I GO HELP?

<SFX> PYON (BOUNCE)

IS KIMIHIRO-KUN IN THE KITCHEN?

YEAH.

ONE OF YUUKO-SAN'S CLIENTS?

Right now, there's a client in the kitchen.

Watanuki is in there with her.

No.

Watanuki's.

...HUH?

...IN MY CASE, I DON'T KNOW THE TASTE OF MY OWN FOOD.

INDEED, I HAVE NO MEMORIES OF HAVING TASTED ANYTHING.

NEITHER DO I.

UNDERSTAND, RIGHT?

I DON'T QUITE...

BUT I'M ABLE TO COOK,

BECAUSE EVEN IF I HAVE NO MEMORY, MY BODY REMEMBERS.

I LIVE BY MYSELF, SO I DO ALL SORTS OF OTHER HOUSEHOLD CHORES,

BUT I ENJOY COOKING MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

I ENJOY

COOKING.

TO BE ABLE TO BRING JOY TO OTHERS WITH SOMETHING I'VE PREPARED MYSELF.

BUT A CERTAIN PERSON TOLD ME THAT THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN THAT. THAT MADE ME THINK...

WHAT THE PERSON WHO MADE THE FOOD LIKES,

WHAT THEY DISLIKE,

WHAT THEY'VE EATEN, WHOM THEY'VE MET, WHAT THEY'VE THOUGHT ABOUT.

THAT IS WHY...

SELF...?

COOKING IS AN EXPRESSION OF ONE'S "SELF."

PEOPLE HAVE OTHERS EAT THE FOOD THEY'VE MADE BECAUSE THEY WANT OTHERS TO GET TO KNOW THEM.

AND IT MAY BE THAT PEOPLE EAT THE FOOD THEY'VE MADE IN ORDER TO GET TO KNOW THEMSELVES.

<SFX> GYU (CLENCH)

AND LEAST OF ALL, YOURSELF.

ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE?

DIDN'T YOU SAY, "I DON'T WANT TO KNOW?"

WHEN YOU SAY THAT YOU DON'T "WANT TO KNOW,"

IT'S NOT BECAUSE IT'S "REPULSIVE,"

RATHER, "BECAUSE IT'S FRIGHTENING," RIGHT?

ISN'T THAT WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO EAT THE FOOD YOU'VE MADE?

IT'S FRIGHTENING TO GET TO KNOW YOUR OWN SELF, MORE SO THAN GETTING TO KNOW ANYONE ELSE.

BECAUSE

WHY DO YOU HAVE TO SAY IT LIKE THAT!?

I JUST DON'T WANT TO EAT IT...!

HUH...?

BECAUSE

THAT'S JUST HOW I AM.

LIKE I JUST SAID, I DON'T KNOW THE TASTE OF THE FOOD I'VE MADE.

WHAT KIND OF FOOD I'VE EATEN, WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE I'VE SPENT TIME WITH,

I CAN'T GET ANY SENSE OF IT.

SO, WHAT I LIKE, WHAT I DISLIKE,

...IT'S VERY FRIGHTENING.

IT IS INDEED FRIGHTENING TO GET TO KNOW ONESELF,

TO ME, THAT IS MUCH MORE...

FRIGHTENING.

BUT TO GO ON NOT KNOWING

WHO'VE EATEN THE FOOD I'VE MADE AND TOLD ME THAT IT'S TASTY.

THERE ARE PEOPLE

BUT THEN,

I DON'T KNOW HOW IT TASTES MYSELF,

BUT I BELIEVE THOSE PEOPLE.

W-

WHY-

WHY DO I HAVE TO TAKE THIS

FROM SOMEONE I'VE ONLY JUST MET!?

BECAUSE WE MAY NEVER MEET AGAIN.

THAT'S SOMETHING I'VE LEARNED FROM WORKING AT THIS SHOP AND MEETING ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE.

BESIDES,

JUST BECAUSE WE'VE MET TODAY DOESN'T MEAN WE'LL MEET AGAIN TOMORROW.

AND THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER MOMENT LIKE THE ONE WE'RE IN RIGHT NOW.

"ONLY THE INEVITABLE,"

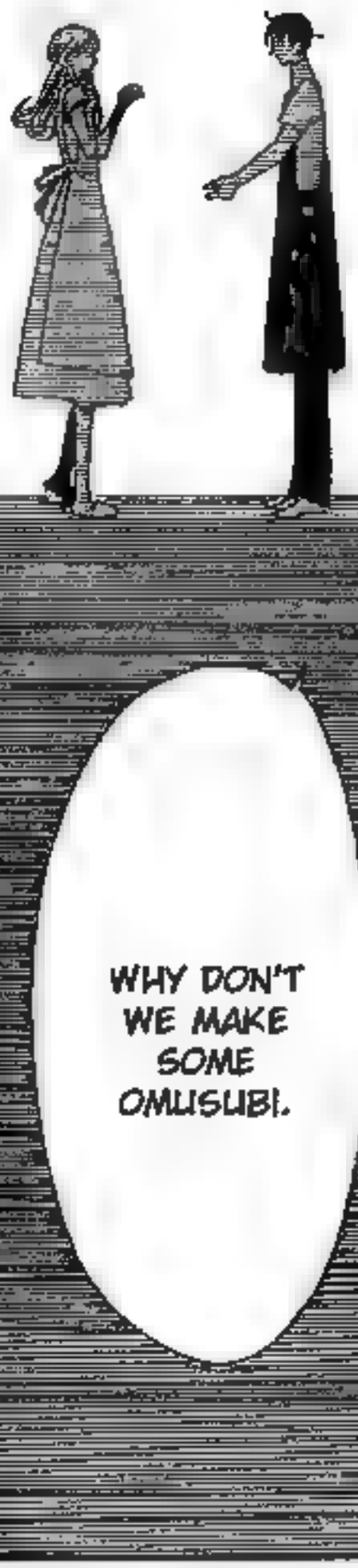
"THERE ARE NO COINCIDENCES IN THIS WORLD,"

THAT'S WHAT YUUKO-SAN WOULD SAY.

I GUESS IT'S HER FAVOURITE LINE.

SINCE WE'VE MET EACH OTHER LIKE THIS,

SO,



WHY DON'T WE MAKE SOME OMUSUBI.

LET'S COOK TOGETHER AND EAT TOGETHER.

I WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU.

AND I ALSO WANT FOR YOU TO GET TO KNOW ME.

WHAT WAS THAT?

THE KITCHEN?

<SFX> TOTOTO (TAP TAP TAP)

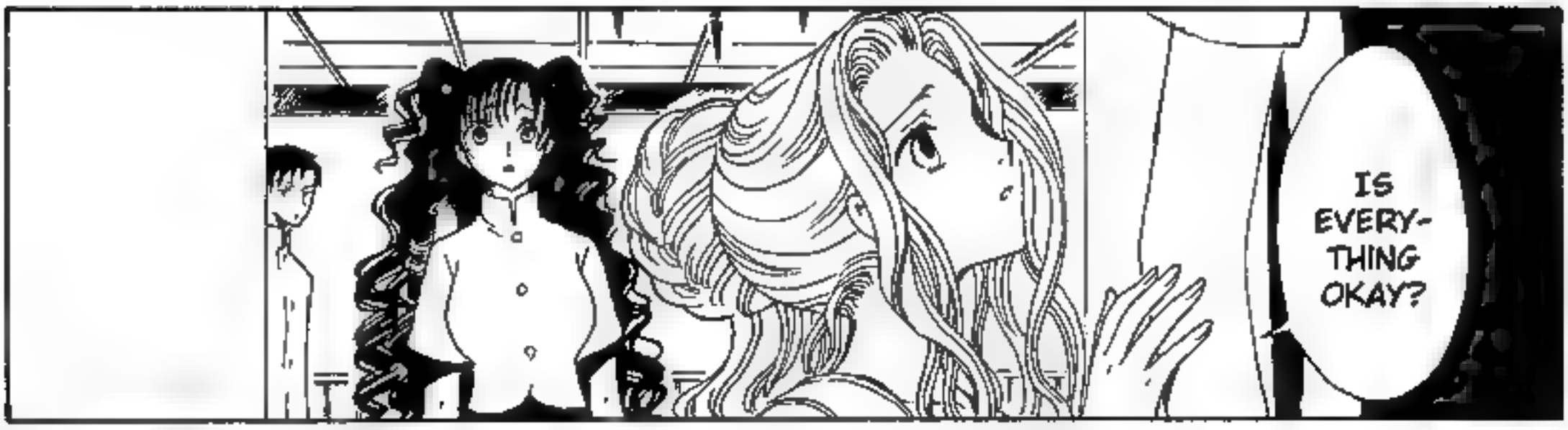
WAIT!

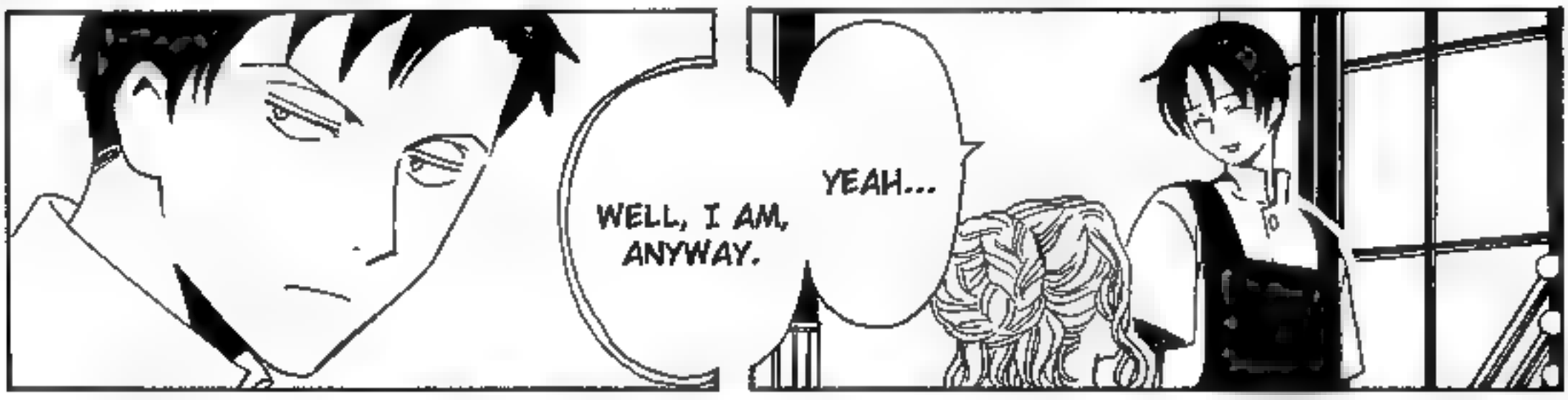
<SFX> BATA BATA (PITTER PATTER)

<SFX> GASHAAN (CRASH)

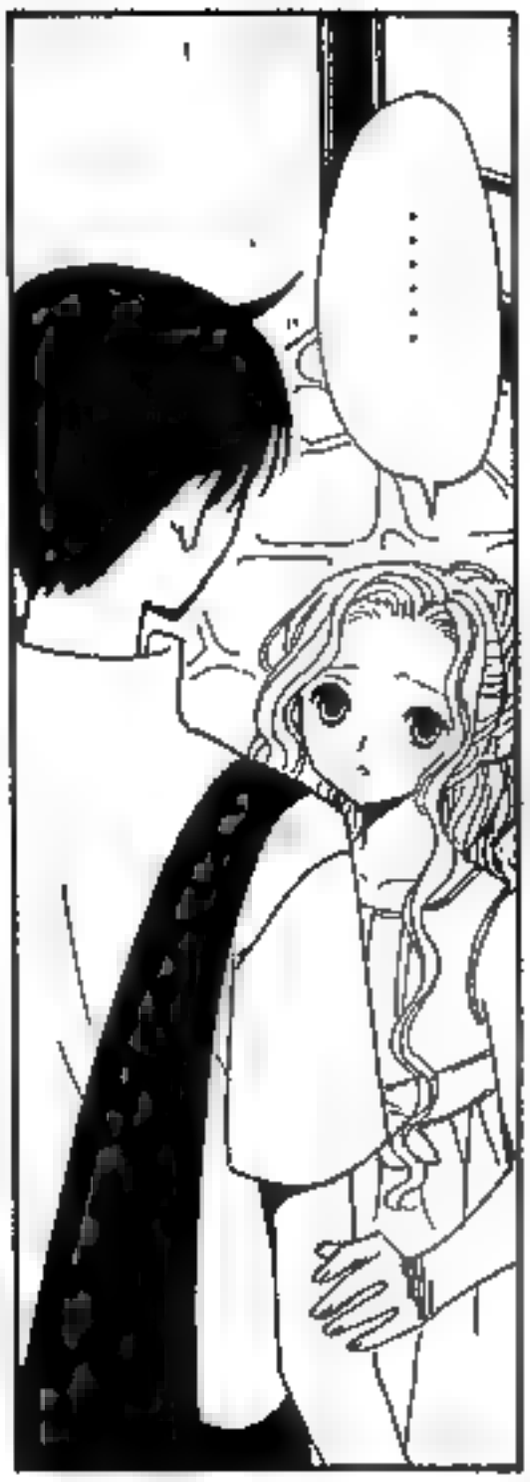
<SFX> BATAAN (KABAAM)

WATA-
NUKI-
KUN!?

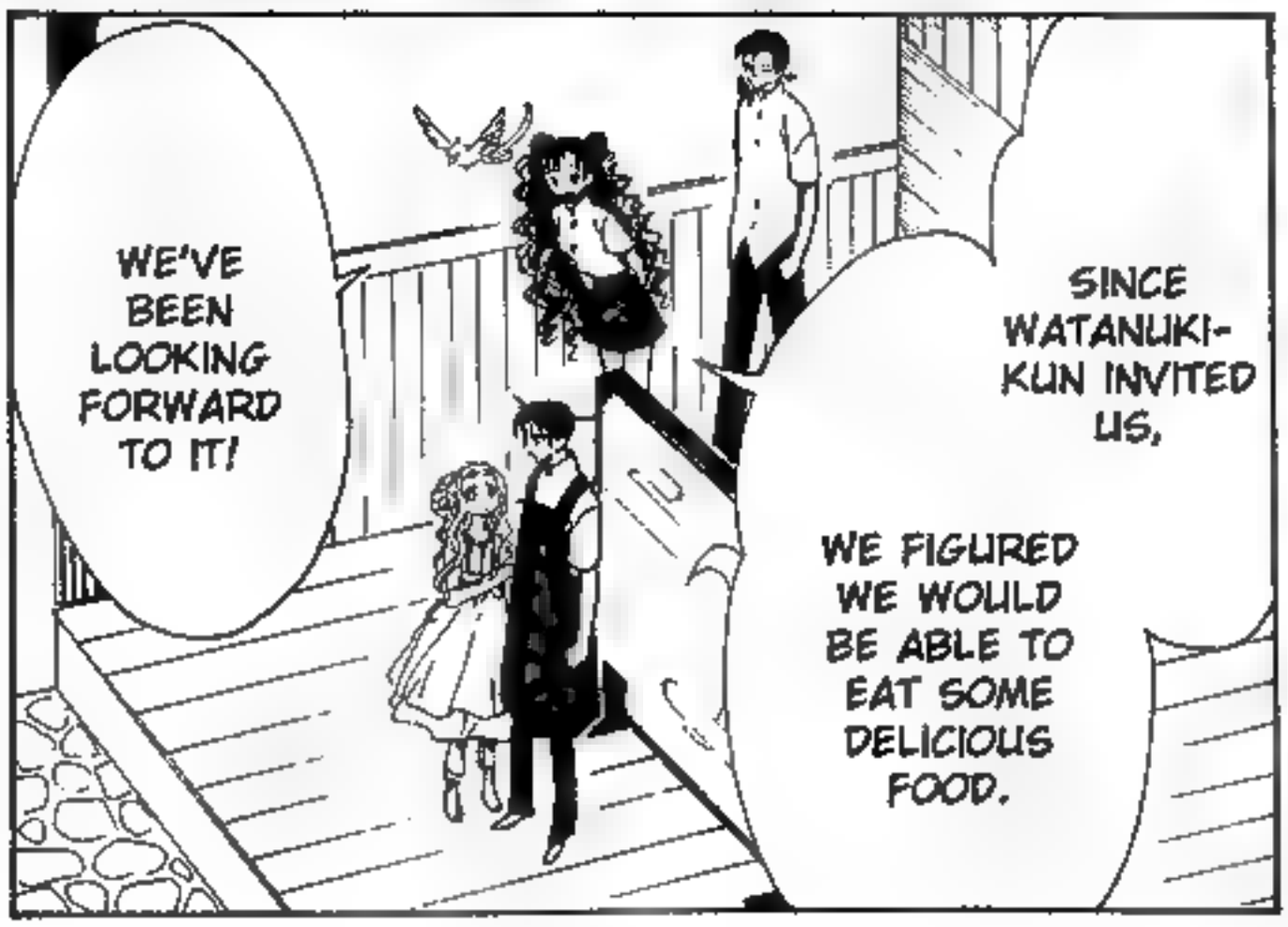

IS EVERY-THING OKAY?


YEAH...
WELL, I AM, ANYWAY.

YOU'RE GOING TO COOK,
RIGHT?


.....

HUH...?


WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
SINCE WATANUKI-KUN INVITED US,
WE FIGURED WE WOULD BE ABLE TO EAT SOME DELICIOUS FOOD.

RIGHT!

<SFX> GYU (GRIP)

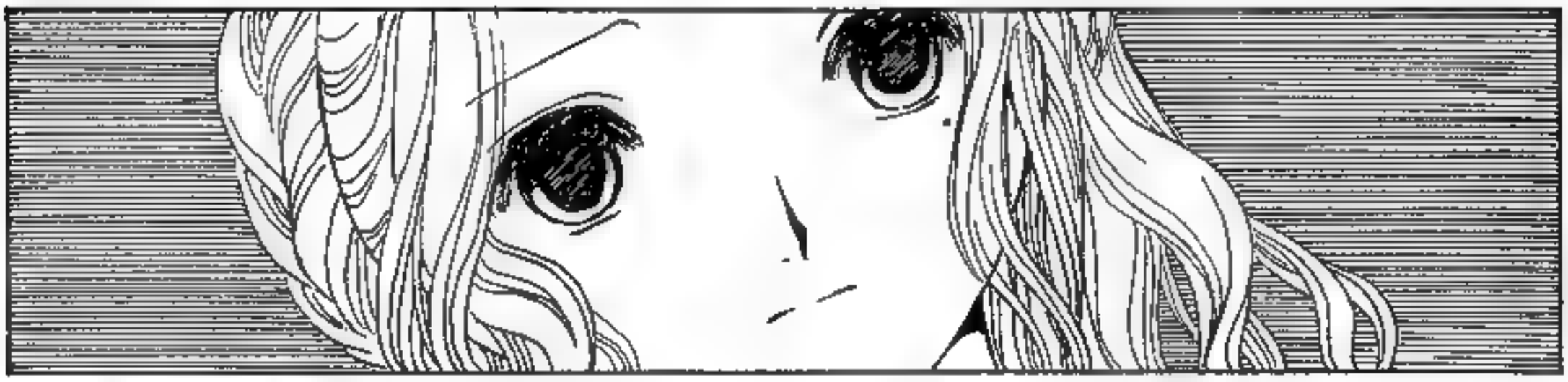
WE WERE WONDERING WHAT YOU WOULD MAKE!

I WAS THINKING OF...

OMUSUBI.

LET'S MAKE THEM

TOGETHER.



YEAH,
LET'S.
WITH EVERYONE.

SO SHE LEFT JUST LIKE THAT.

YEAH.

I SEE.

AND SAID ALL THOSE IMPERTINENT THINGS.

IT'S BECAUSE I WENT AHEAD

...PEOPLE DON'T GET SUCH STRONG FEELINGS FOR SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T ALREADY EXIST INSIDE THEM.

SO IF THAT PERSON REACTED LIKE THAT TO WHAT YOU SAID,

THEN YOU MUST HAVE BEEN ON TARGET.

ANGER,

SORROW,

AND EVEN LOVE.

EVEN SO...

YOU WANTED HER TO HEAR IT, DID YOU NOT?

EVEN SO...

IT MIGHT NOT BE WHAT SHE WANTED TO HEAR.

...YES.

YOU UNDER-STAND THAT PERSON'S BURDENS

BETTER THAN I COULD. DON'T YOU AGREE?

BUT THIS SHOP IS YOURS, YUUKO-SAN...

THAT PERSON ENTERED THIS SHOP

BECAUSE SHE NEEDED TO.

SO THAT'S WHY

YOU HAD ME DEAL WITH HER...

IT ALLOWED HER TO MEET YOU, WATANUKI.

MEET WHOM THEY MUST MEET,

WHEN THEY MUST MEET MUST MEET THEM.

PEOPLE

BECAUSE

...EVERYTHING IS INEVITABLE.

<SFX> PASHI (SMACK)

WHAT IS IT?

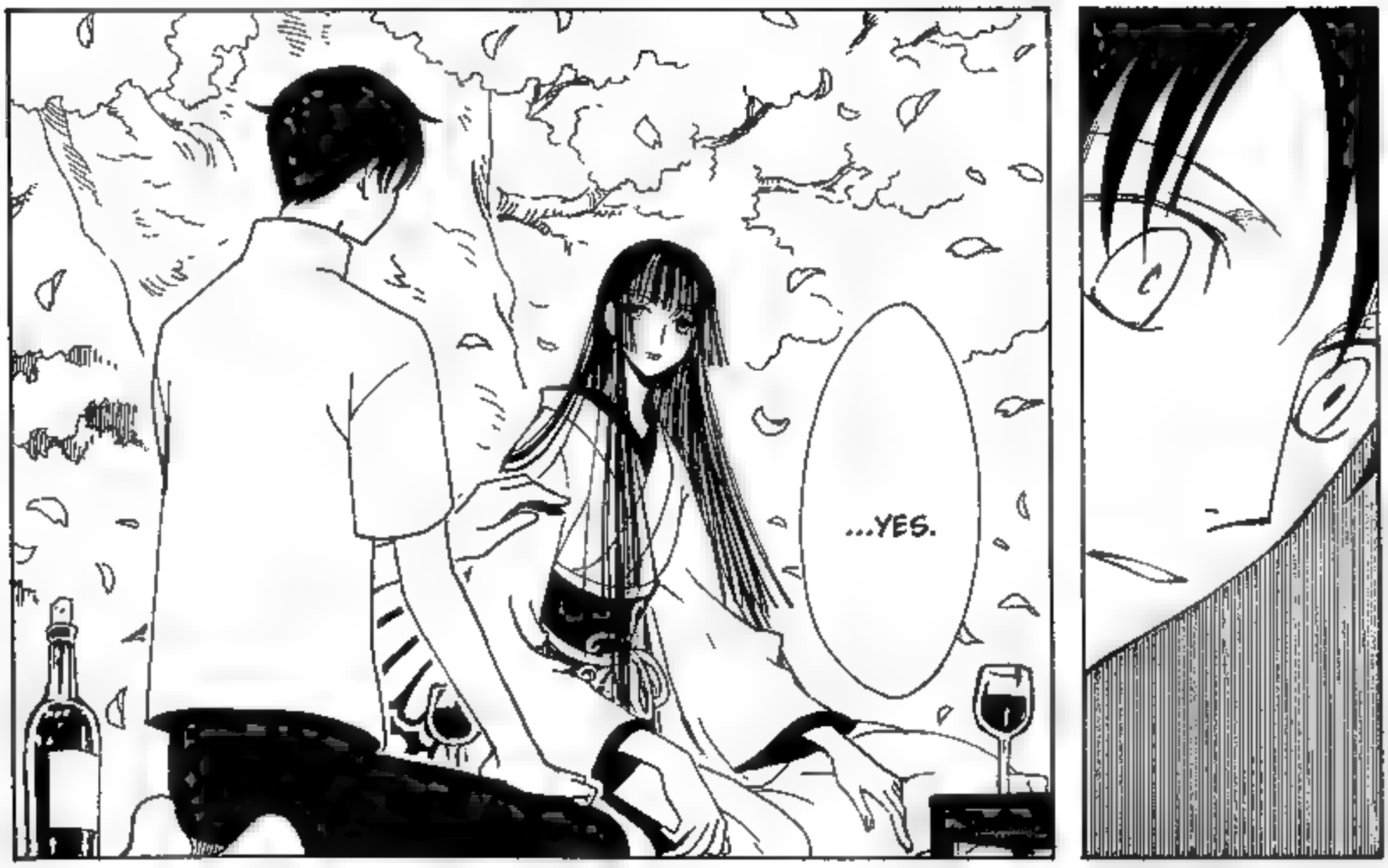
NO, IT'S JUST,

SOMEHOW, YUUKO-SAN SEEMED...

AND...

THE SAME APPLIES TO PARTINGS.

WATANUKI, DO YOU LIKE THIS PLACE?


...YES.

THIS PLACE WAS MADE FOR THE DAY THAT MUST COME,

<SFX> ZA. (RUSTLE..)

BUT...

IF IT BECOMES ONE OF YOUR REASONS TO STAY,

THEN I'M GLAD.

YUUKO-SAN, YOU NEVER WEAR THE SAME OUTFIT TWICE.

BUT I'VE DEFINITELY...

BEFORE.

I'VE SEEN IT...

THAT KIMONO...

THAT WAS... IN A DREAM...

YES, AND THE DREAM IS ALREADY COMING TO AN END.

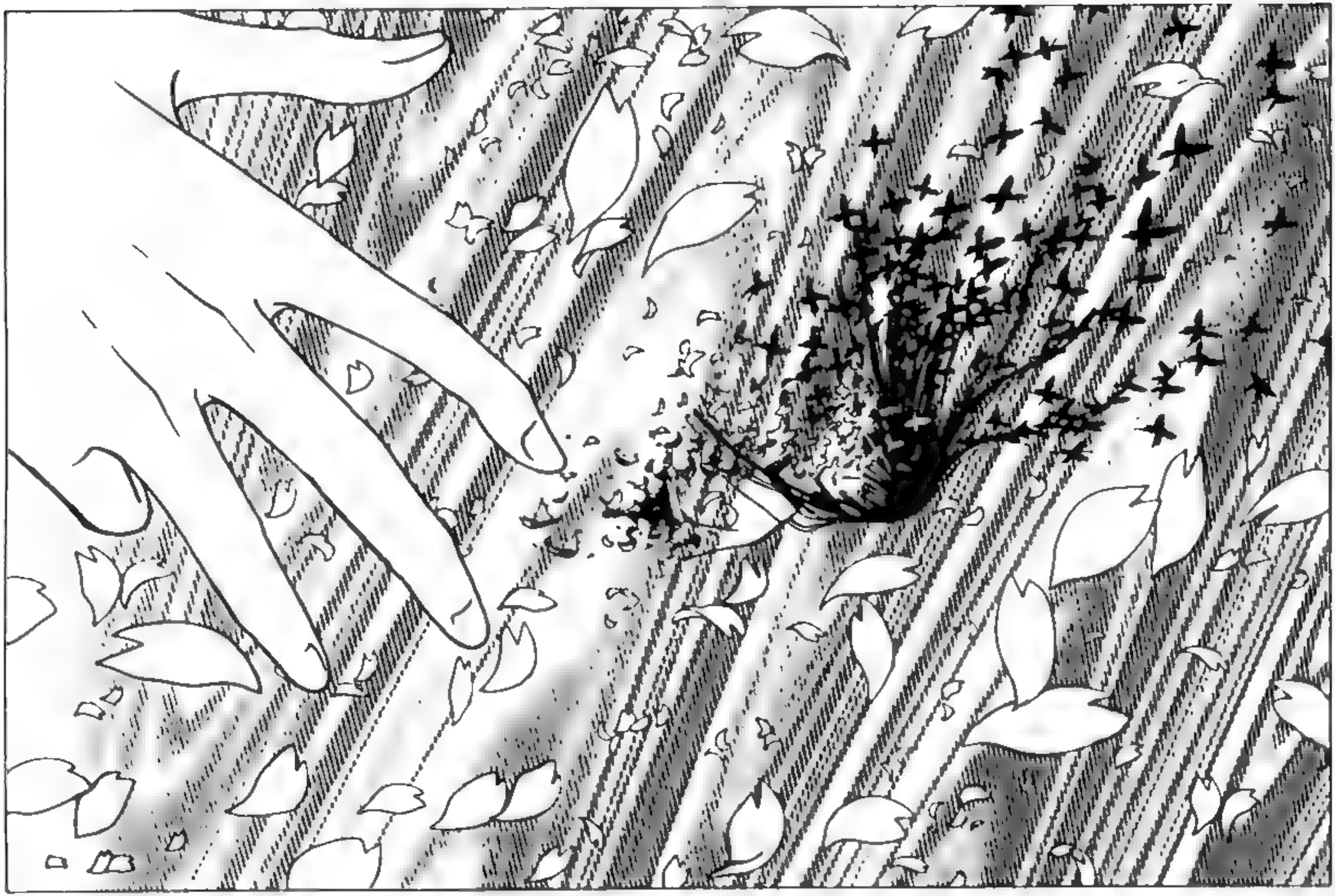
<SFX> ZAA (RUSSTLE)

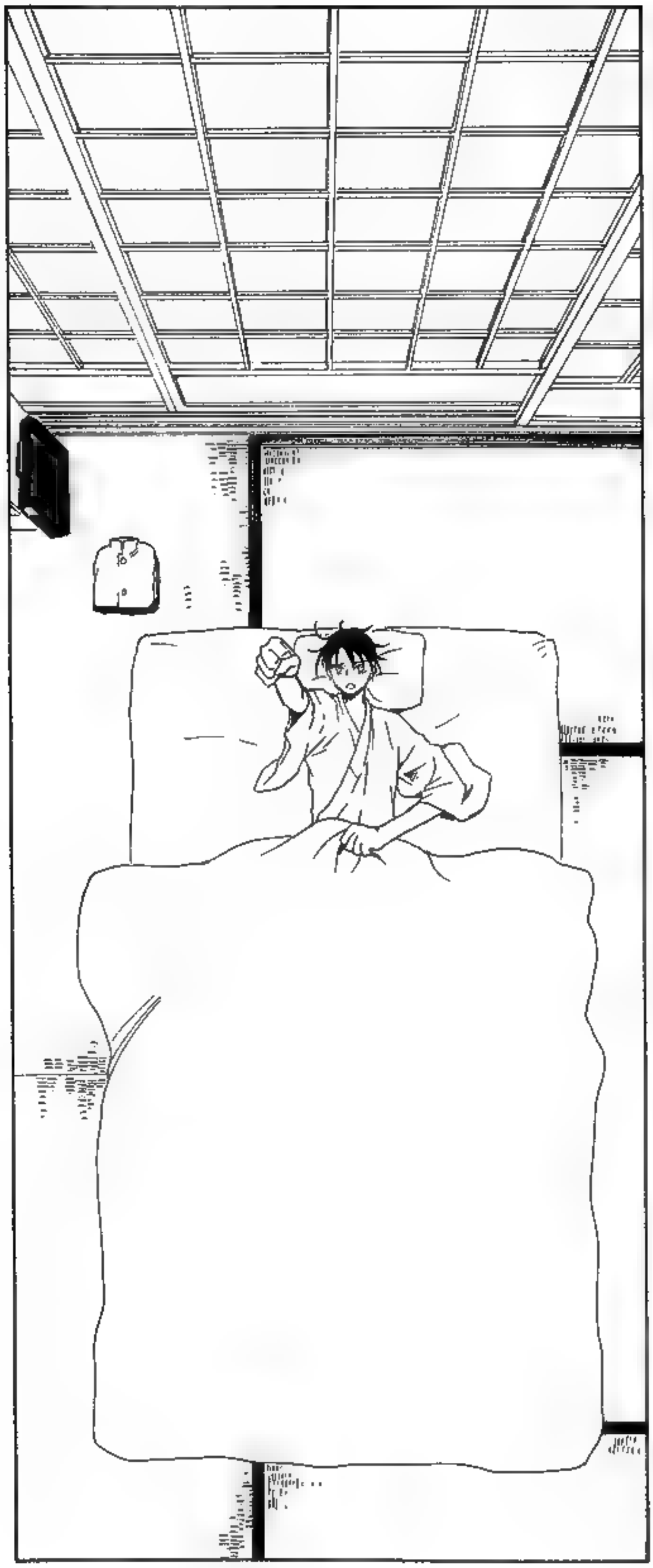
<SFX> ZAAAAAA (RUSSSSSSTLE)

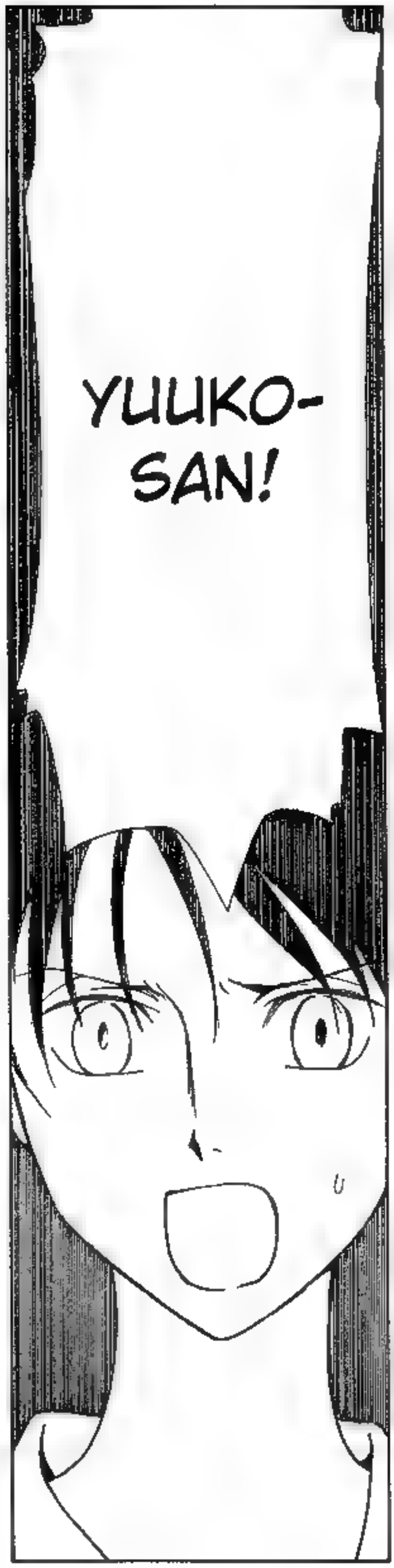
<SFX> KASHAN (CRASH)

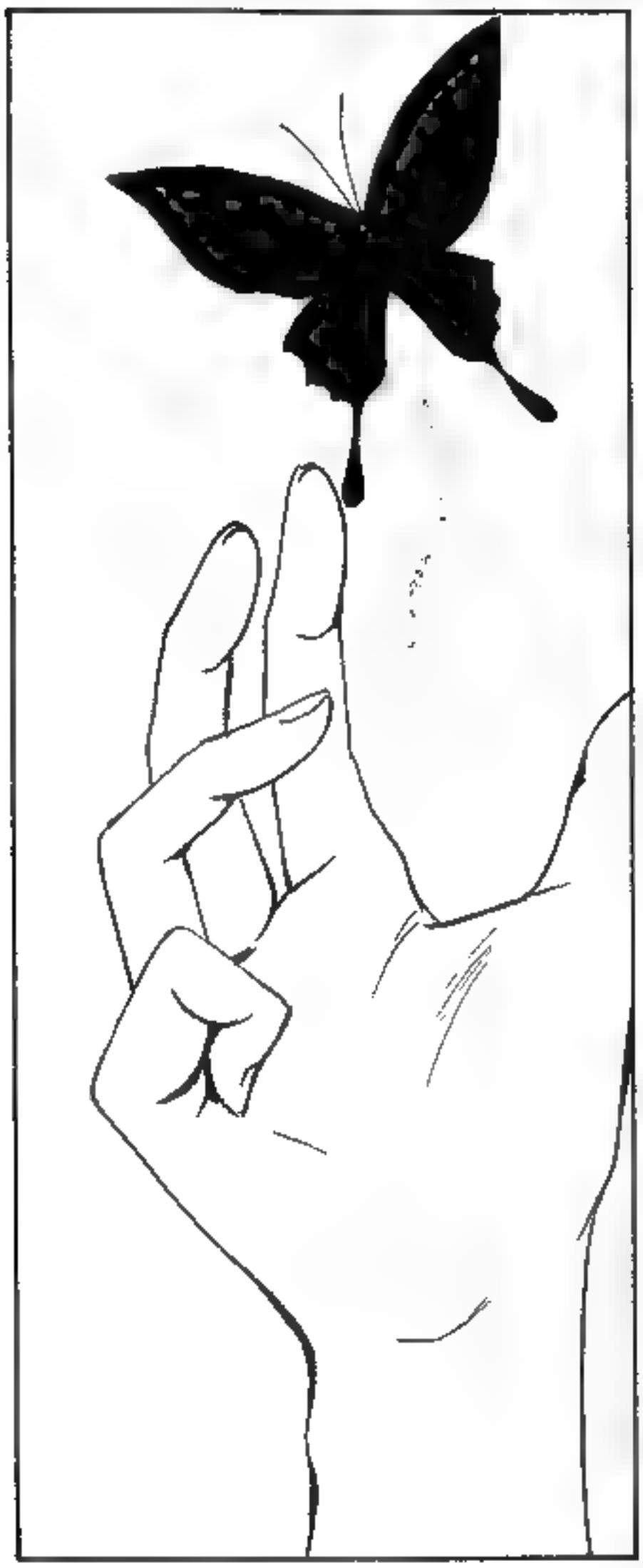
(SFX) ZAAAA (RUSSSSTLE)

(SFX) ZAA (RUSSTLE)



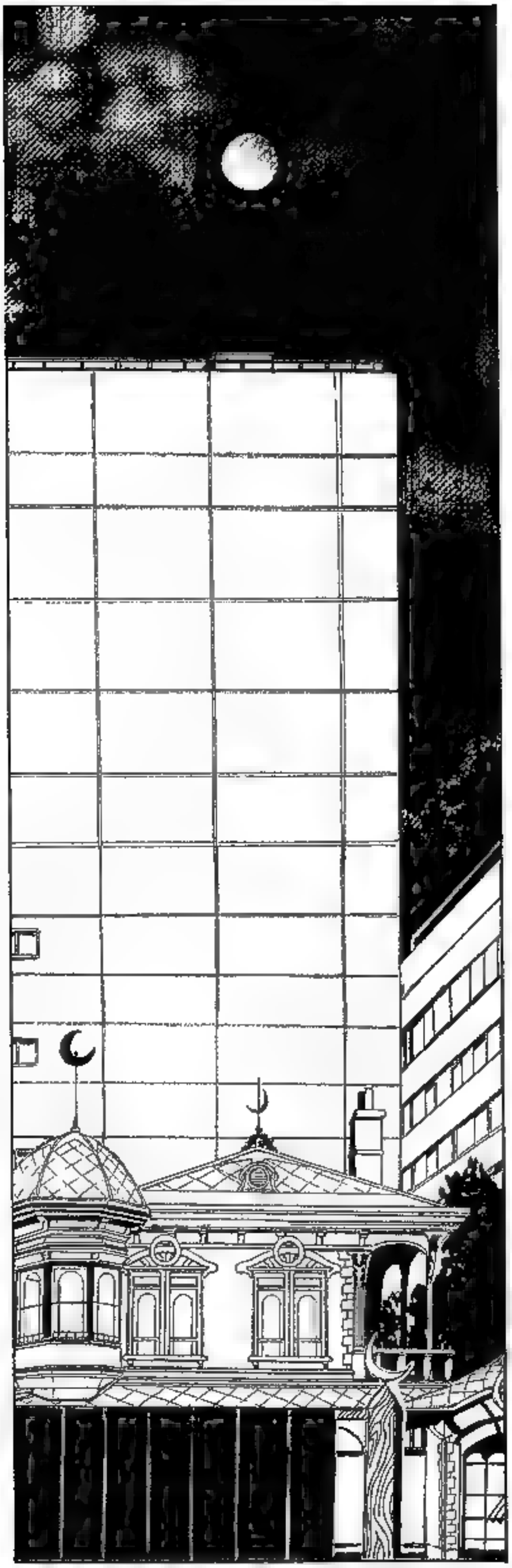



YUUKO-
SAN!



...IS THIS

ALSO A DREAM?



BUT WHY WAS THIS ONE SO TERRIFYING?

...I'M ALWAYS HAVING DREAMS THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

...I THOUGHT YUUKO-SAN WAS SLEEPING IN LATE,

SO I WENT TO WAKE HER UP, BUT SHE WASN'T IN HER BEDROOM.

SHE WASN'T THERE?

I LOOKED ELSEWHERE FOR HER.

BUT SHE WASN'T ANYWHERE IN THE SHOP...

THAT SHOP COULD HAVE SOME HIDDEN ROOM THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT.

AND MOKONA WASN'T AROUND THIS MORNING EITHER.

I HAVEN'T SEEN MARU AND MORO AT ALL...

SOME-HOW...

YEAH...

BUT... SOME-HOW...

SOME-
HOW...

IT'S AS
IF WE'LL

NEVER
MEET
AGAIN...

<SFX> KYU (PANG)

NAH.

IT MUST BE THAT SHE HAD SOMETHING SHE HAD TO DO.

I PROMISED, AFTER ALL.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO DO WHATEVER I CAN.

IF YUUKO-SAN HAD ANY WISHES,

THEN I WOULD TRY MY BEST.

PROMISED?

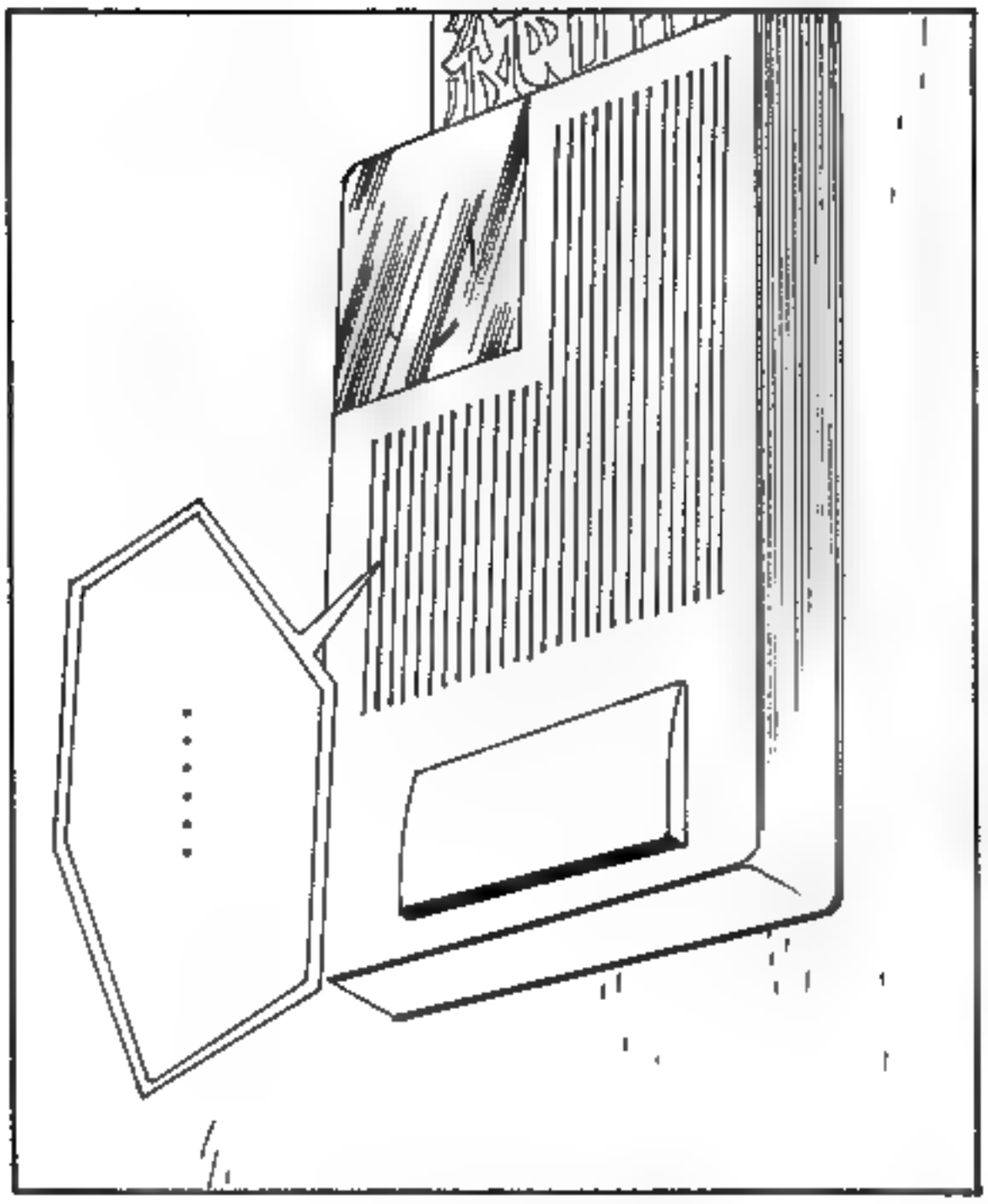
THIS COMES FIRST.

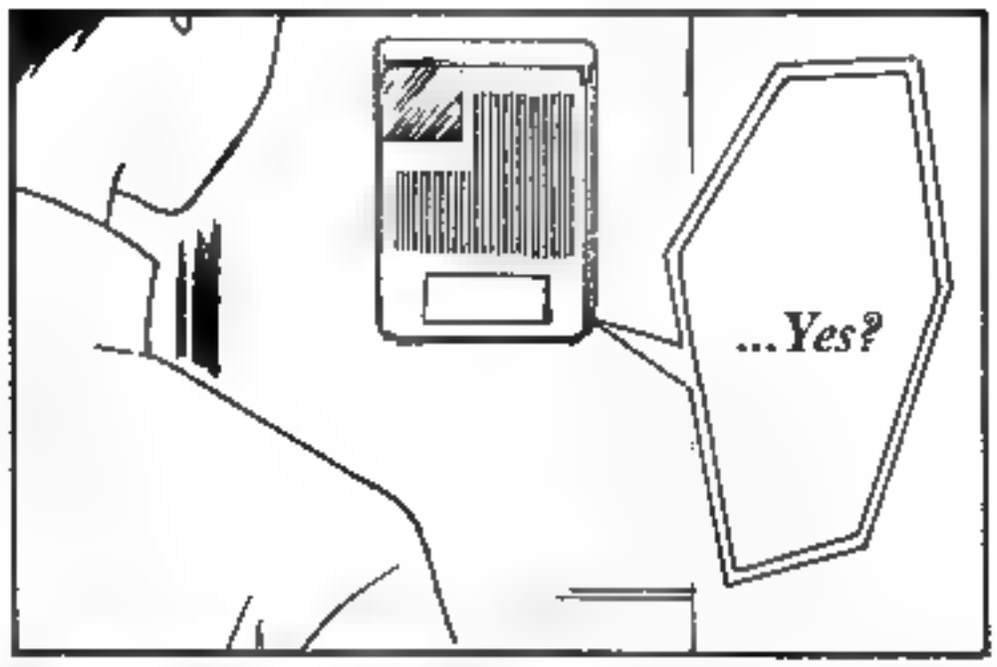
IN ORDER FOR THAT TO HAPPEN,

<SFX> PIN PON (DING DONG)

SIGN: SOGO KEIBI HOSHO CO., LTD.

...I SEE.




...Yes?

UM.
HELLO.

IF YOU DON'T MIND...
UM,
I BROUGHT YOU OMUSUBI.
I MADE THEM AFTER WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY.

...Please leave.

PLEASE,

JUST TAKE THESE!

WAIT!

click

<SFX> GYU (CLENCH)

...IF I KEEP ON RINGING I'LL ONLY BE BOTHERING HER.

MAYBE IT'S BETTER TO GO HOME FOR TODAY.

<SFX> SHI....N (SILENCE)

Ding Doong

AFTER ALL, I DID MAKE THEM FOR HER.

I'LL LEAVE THEM ALONG WITH A NOTE.

RIGHT HERE.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

WITH THOSE?

.....

THAT'S ABOUT ALL I CAN DO.

I'LL KEEP ON MAKING THEM UNTIL SHE EATS THEM.

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Thank you.

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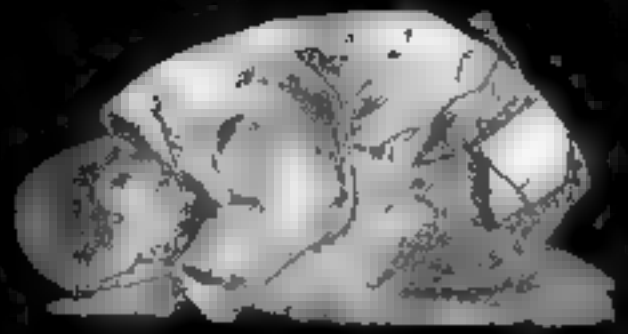
Publisher	Kodansha
ISBN	978-4063757330

be with you scans note

Page 09:

We're not sure what a *sliding dogeza* is but a *dogeza* is a kind of bow performed while kneeling, used to express the deepest of apologies, submission, or to beg for a great favour.



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<SFX> PINPOOON (DING DOOONG)

HI, IT'S WATANUKI.

I MADE YOU MORE OMUSUBI TODAY.

. . . . . .

I'LL JUST LEAVE THEM HERE.

UM,

CAN WE JUST TALK FOR A LITTLE BIT?

No matter how many times you come here, nothing will change.

click

<SFX> PASA (RUSTLE)

LET'S GO.

YEAH.

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO DO THIS?

AND IF YOU GET THIS RECEPTION EVERY TIME?

UNTIL SHE EATS WHAT I MADE,

AND THEN WHAT SHE'S MADE HERSELF.

IT DOESN'T MATTER.

I'LL KEEP DOING IT.

...SHE HASN'T.

I'M SLEEPING OVER AT THE SHOP TO WATCH OVER THINGS FOR NOW.

...YUUKO-SAN STILL HASN'T REAPPEARED?

BUT IT'S BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE I LAST SAW YUUKO-SAN,

MOKONA, MARU OR MORO.

I CAN'T DO IT YUUKO-SAN'S WAY,

SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO IT MY OWN WAY.

WELL THEN, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO WALK WITH ME.

YEAH, I AM.

OH WELL. IT'S NICE THAT THE ALCOHOL SUPPLY ISN'T BEING DEPLETED FOR ONCE.

WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE CARRYING?

BY THE WAY,

ARE YOU GOING SOMEWHERE?

WE'VE BOTH GOT THE SAME DESTINATION ANYWAY.

HUH?

HEY,

WHY ARE YOU STAYING OVER AT THE SHOP!?

AND WHO TOLD YOU TO DEPLETE IT!?

WELL, THE ALCOHOL SUPPLY ISN'T BEING DEPLETED, RIGHT?

<SFX> DAN (STOMP)

SO I DIDN'T MAKE ANYTHING YET!

I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO BE ALONE,

SO, WHERE'S DINNER?

<SFX> DODON (BABUM)

I'M HUNGRY. GO MAKE SOMETHING.

BRING SOME ALCOHOL.

Argh! How exactly was he raised in order to end up like this!? Next time, I'm going to ask Haruka-san about it, for sure!!

<SFX> BAAAN (BAAAM)

SAKE.

<SFX> DOSU DOSU (STOMP STOMP)

HOW DO I DELETE IT!?

YOU! IS THAT ARROGANT FACE YOUR DEFAULT!?

<SFX> TOSU TOSU (TAP TAP)

<SFX> MUKK!!! (GRRRRR)

<SFX> GOSO (RUMMAGE)

<SFX> PISHAN (SLAM)

IF YUUKO-SAN GETS ANGRY LATER, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO A SLIDING DOGEZA!

...DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE TIME TO USE THIS

IS GETTING NEAR?

SHE STILL WON'T SEE YOU?

YOUR COOKING STUDENT?

<SFX> KIIN KOON KAAN KOON (DING DONG DANG DONG)

<SFX> カーコーキー

私立十字学

TO BRING THOSE OMUSUBI TO HER.

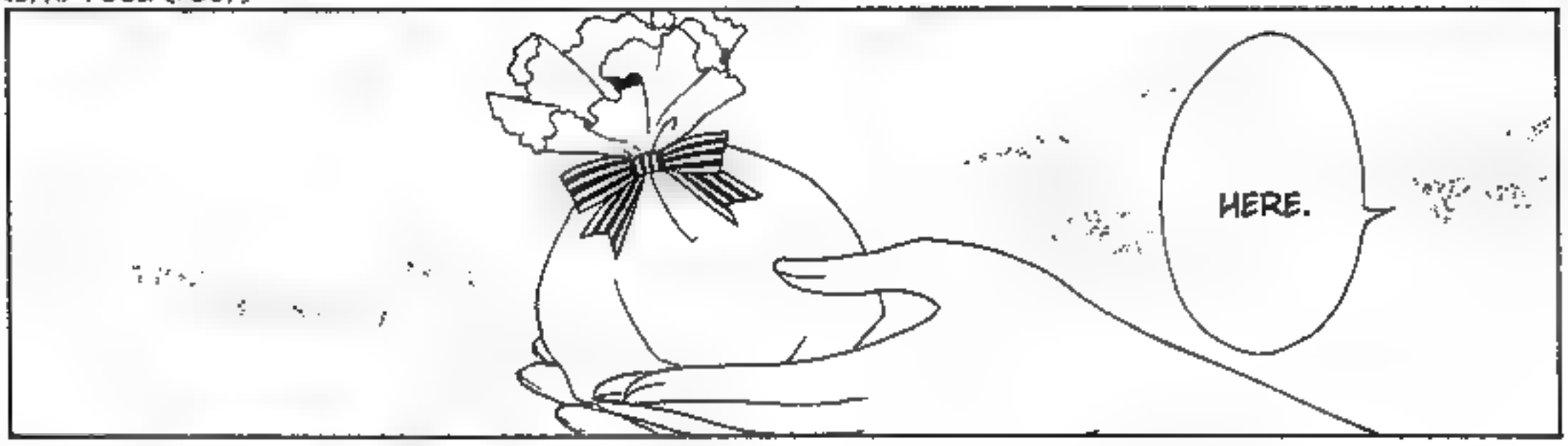
TODAY AS WELL,

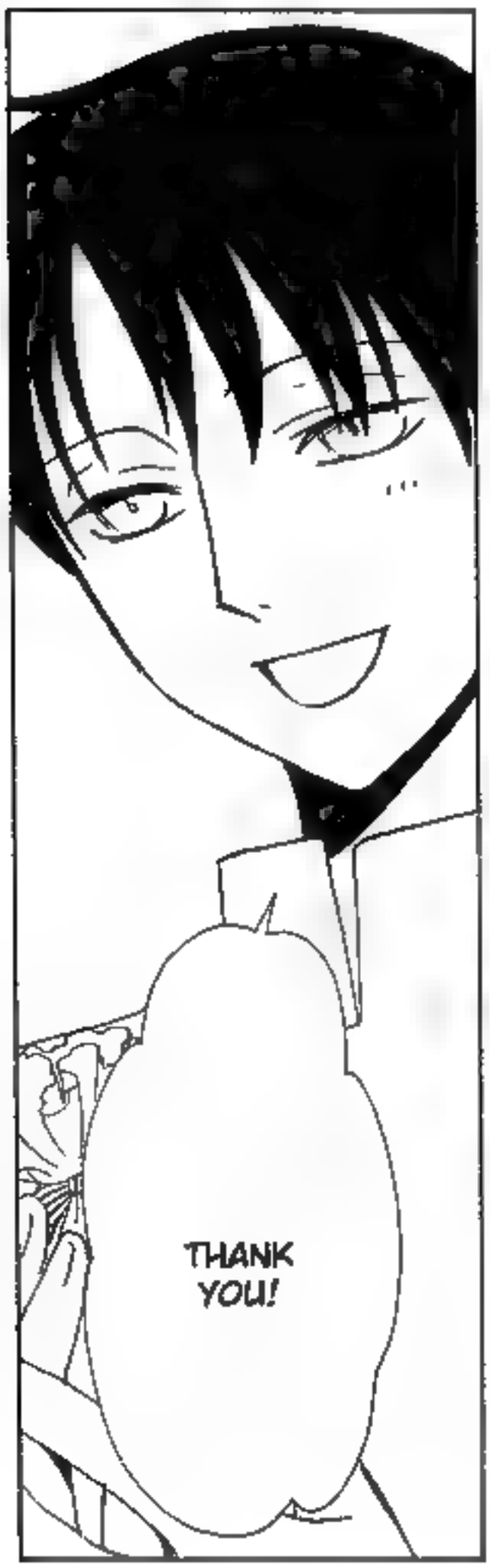
...BUT YOU'RE GOING, RIGHT?

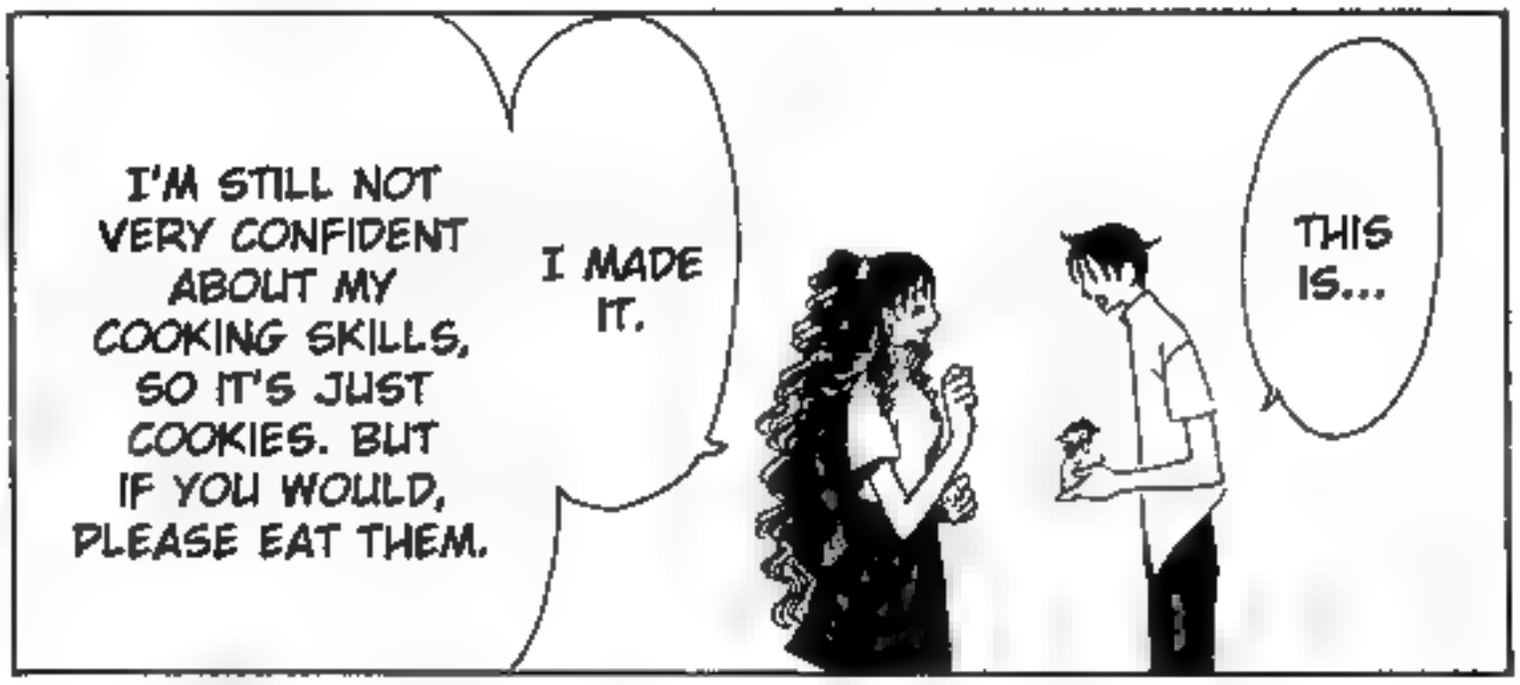
YEAH.

YEAH, WELL.

<SFX> POSU (POOF)







DON'T WORRY.

YOUR FEELINGS WILL GET THROUGH TO HER FOR SURE.

...YEAH.

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Publisher	Kodansha
ISBN	978-4063757330

be with you scans note

Page 10:

Nozawana is a leafy Japanese turnip which is usually pickled.

Umeboshi are dried pickled ume fruits, often translated as plums but more closely related to apricots. They are extremely sour and salty and are usually served as side dishes for rice or inside onigiri. If the pickled ume is not dried, they are called umezuke instead.

Left: umeboshi; right: nozawana

xxホリック

Maybe it means he was actually brought up well?

HERE.

YOU'RE WELCOME.

THANKS FOR THE MEAL.

AT LEAST YOU SHOW SOME COURTESY IN THAT DEPARTMENT.

<SFX> KACHA KACHA (CLACK CLACK)

What kind of response is that? Maybe I spoke too soon.

MM.

THE STUFF KUNOGI MADE.

BRING THEM OUT.

WHAT?

YOU'RE NOT AFFECTED BY HIMAWARI-CHAN'S BAD LUCK, RIGHT?

...DID SHE?

HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?

HIMAWARI-CHAN

WANTED YOU TO TAKE SOME OF THE BURDEN AWAY FROM ME.

THAT MUST BE WHY...

KUNOGI TOLD ME WE SHOULD EAT THEM TOGETHER.

<SFX> ZU... (SIP...)

THEY WERE MADE BY HIMAWARI-CHAN!

HOW CAN THAT BE!?

SHE ALSO SAID SHE WASN'T VERY CONFIDENT IN THE TASTE.

<SFX> GATAAA (CLAAATTER)

<SFX> SHIRE (NONCHALANT)

<SFX> BA (TA-DA!)

EVEN SO, THEY COULDN'T BE ANYTHING BUT DELICIOUS!

SHE SAID SHE HADN'T DONE ANY COOKING IN OVER TEN YEARS.

BECAUSE HIMAWARI-CHAN MADE THEM WITH HER OWN HANDS!

<SFX> GOSO GOSO (RUSTLE RUSTLE)

HAND THEM OVER.

NO, WAIT! I WANT YOU SPRAWLED ON THE FLOOR!

I'LL SHARE THEM WITH YOU, BUT ONLY BECAUSE HIMAWARI-CHAN SAID SO.

TREMBLE WITH THANKS AND GRATITUDE AS YOU ACCEPT THEM!

I KNOW.

KUNOGI MADE THEM ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.

AND I RESPECT THAT.

<SFX> ZUI (SHH)

<SFX> SUTON (SLUMP)

MM.

...HERE.

.....

HOW ARE THEY?

<SFX> SAKU... (CRUNCH...)

NO.

I...

HEY, YOU!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "NOT BAD!?" YOU SHOULD SAY IT'S THE BEST!

ぱりぱり

A BIT TOO SWEET FOR MY TASTES, BUT NOT BAD.

<SFX> PORI PORI (MUNCH MUNCH)

YOU EAT THEM TOO.

...I'LL EAT ONE.

...WHAT?

EVEN IF I FORGET, MY BODY WILL REMEMBER.

...HIMAWARI-CHAN MADE THESE FOR US.

(SFX) SAKU (CRUNCH)

...DELICIOUS!

IT WILL.

IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THAT LADY WOULD ALSO EAT AND HAVE IT BRING HER HAPPINESS.

HUH?

AS LONG AS SHE EATS IT.

<SFX> PINPOON (DING-DOONG)

<SFX> SOME

click

TODAY, I BROUGHT NOZAWANA AND UMEBOSHI.

I PICKLED THE UMEBOSHI MYSELF.

HELLO.

.....

If you know that, then why do you still do it?

I'M SORRY.

I MUST BE A BOTHER.

Today makes it a month.

I STILL WANT YOU TO EAT WHAT I'VE MADE.

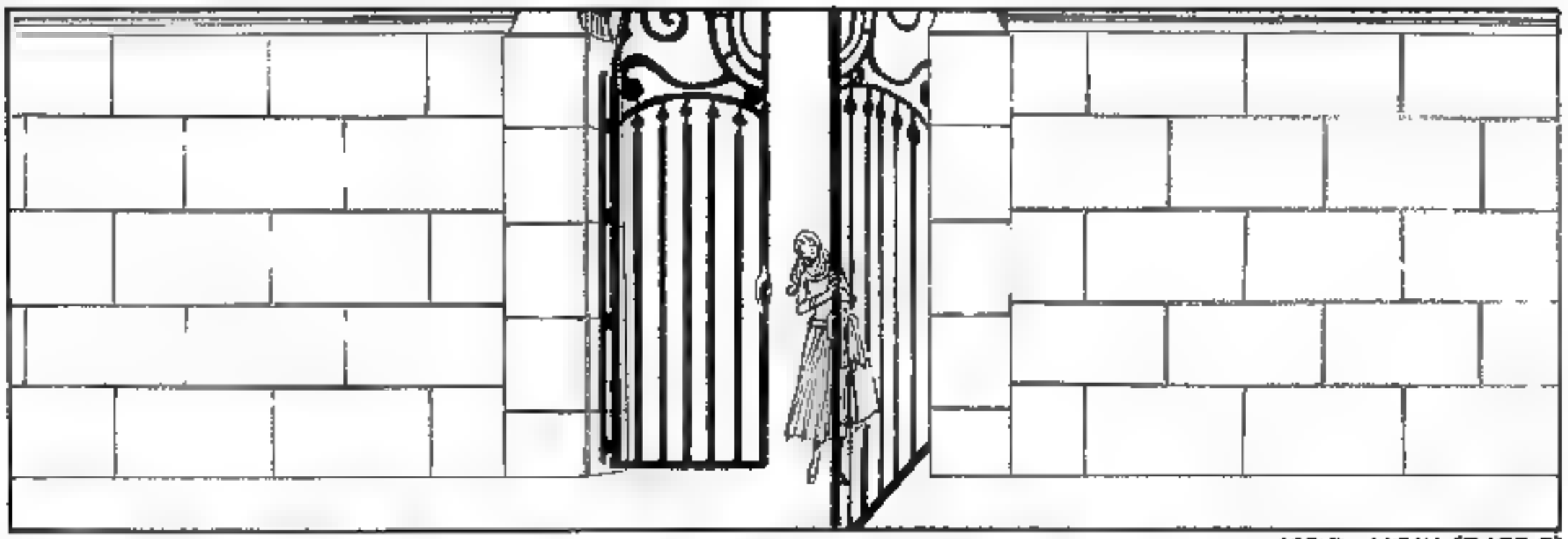
Why do you still come every day?

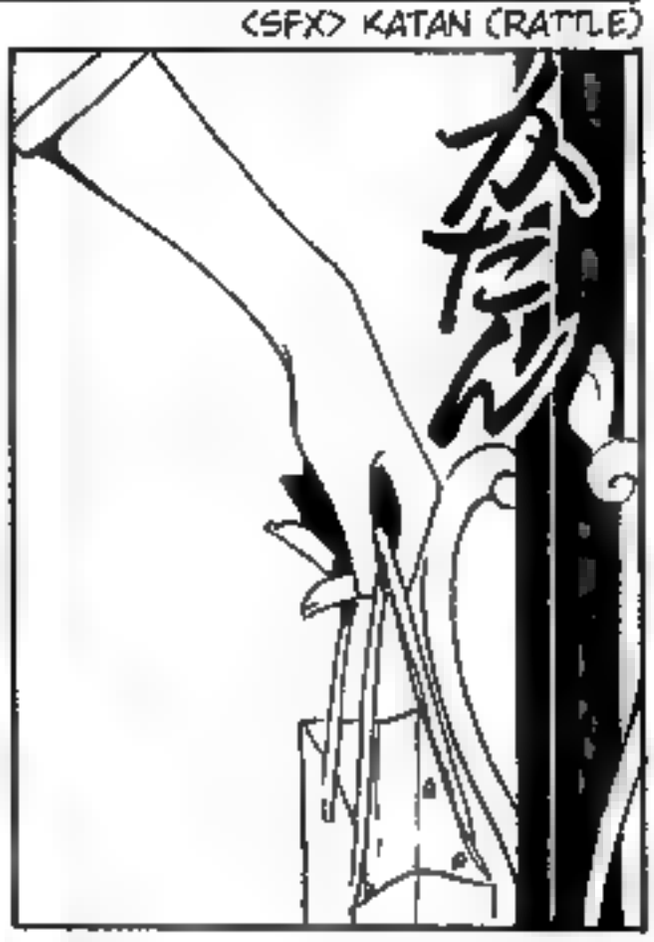
. . . . . .

<SFX> KATAN (RATTLE)

I'LL LEAVE IT HERE.

<SFX> KACHA (CLACK)




〈SFX〉 KATAN (RATTLE)

LET'S COOK TOGETHER AND EAT TOGETHER.

I WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU.

AND I ALSO WANT FOR YOU TO GET TO KNOW ME.

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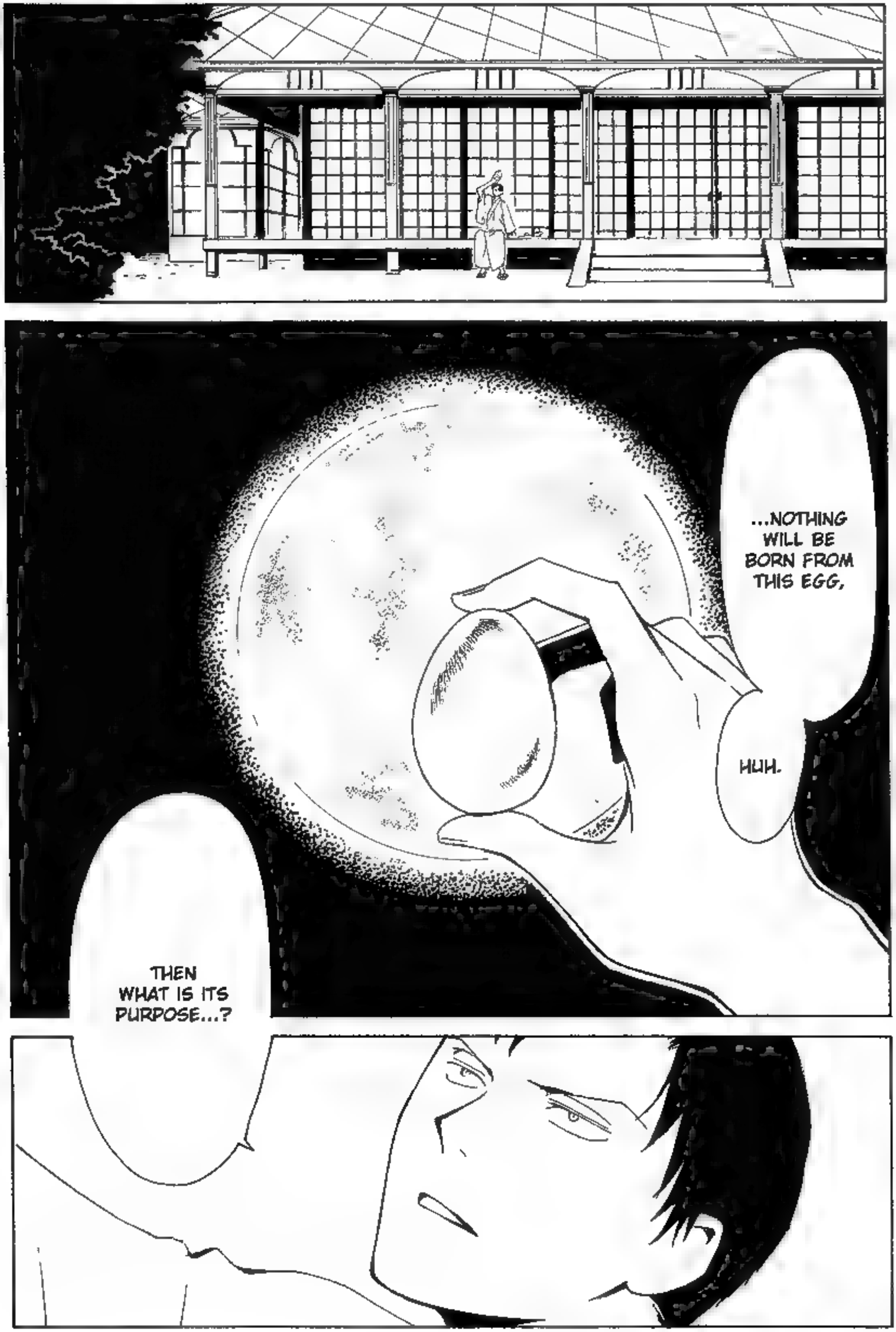
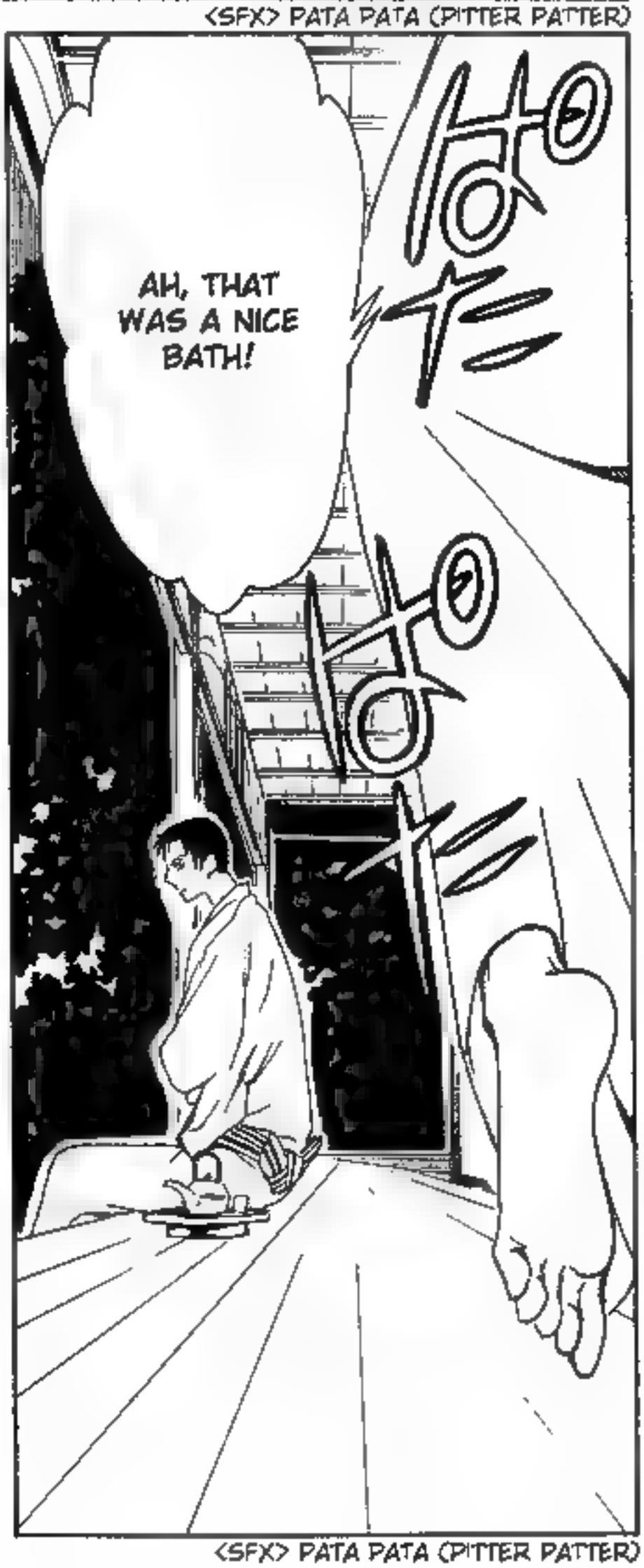

...NOTHING WILL BE BORN FROM THIS EGG,
HUH.
THEN WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE...?

<SFX> SU... (SHH...)

<SFX> PATA PATA (PITTER PATTER)

<SFX> HYOI (SHAKE)



<SFX> PATA PATA (PITTER PATTER)

<SFX> HA (GASP)

NOPE.

OR DID YOU JUST REFILL IT YOURSELF!?

USUALLY THE BOTTLE IS EMPTY BY NOW.

WELL, TOGETHER WITH YUUKO-SAN AND MOKONA, YOU COULD DOWN AN ENTIRE KEG...

.....

<SFX> GASHAN (CRASH)

<SFX> DOSU DOSU (STOMP STOMP)

WELL, WHATEVER!

I'LL GO GET THAT PLUM SAKE THAT I PUT ASIDE. IT WAS STEEPED BY THE GREAT WATANUKI HIMSELF!

...WHAT...
...WH-

SAKURA-CHAN,
SYAO-RAN-KUN,
WHY...

BOTH OF YOU...

NO...

THOSE PEOPLE... THEY'RE...

EVERYTHING
WILL BE
ALL RIGHT.

WAIT...!

<SFX> GAKUN (STUMBLE)

WATCH YOUR STEP, IDIOT.

...HEY.

WHY... WHY...?

MY HAND... MY BODY... THEY JUST...

I COULDN'T SAY WHO THEY ARE, BUT I KNOW THEM...

...THOSE PEOPLE... I KNOW THEM...

WHY...

DOES IT HURT...

...SO MUCH?

<SFX> DA (DASH)

WATA-
NUKI...

<SFX> BAN (BAM)

YUUKO-
SAN!

<SFX> BAN (BAM)

YUUKO-
SAN!

<SFX> BAN (BAM)

YUUKO-
SAN!

<SFX> BAN (BAM)

I NEED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING!

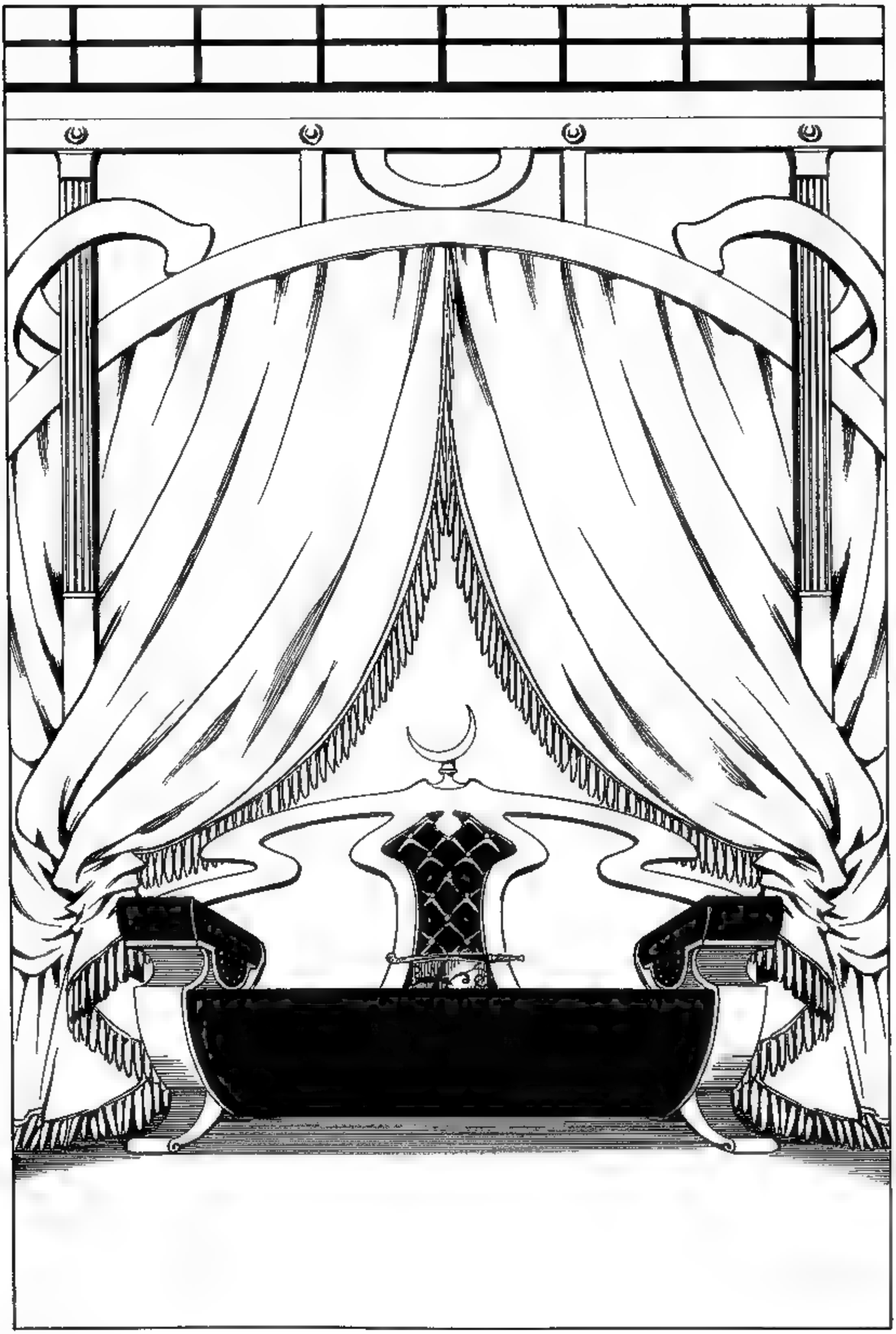
YUUKO-SAN!

<SFX> BAN (BAM)

<SFX> BATA BATA (THUD THUD)

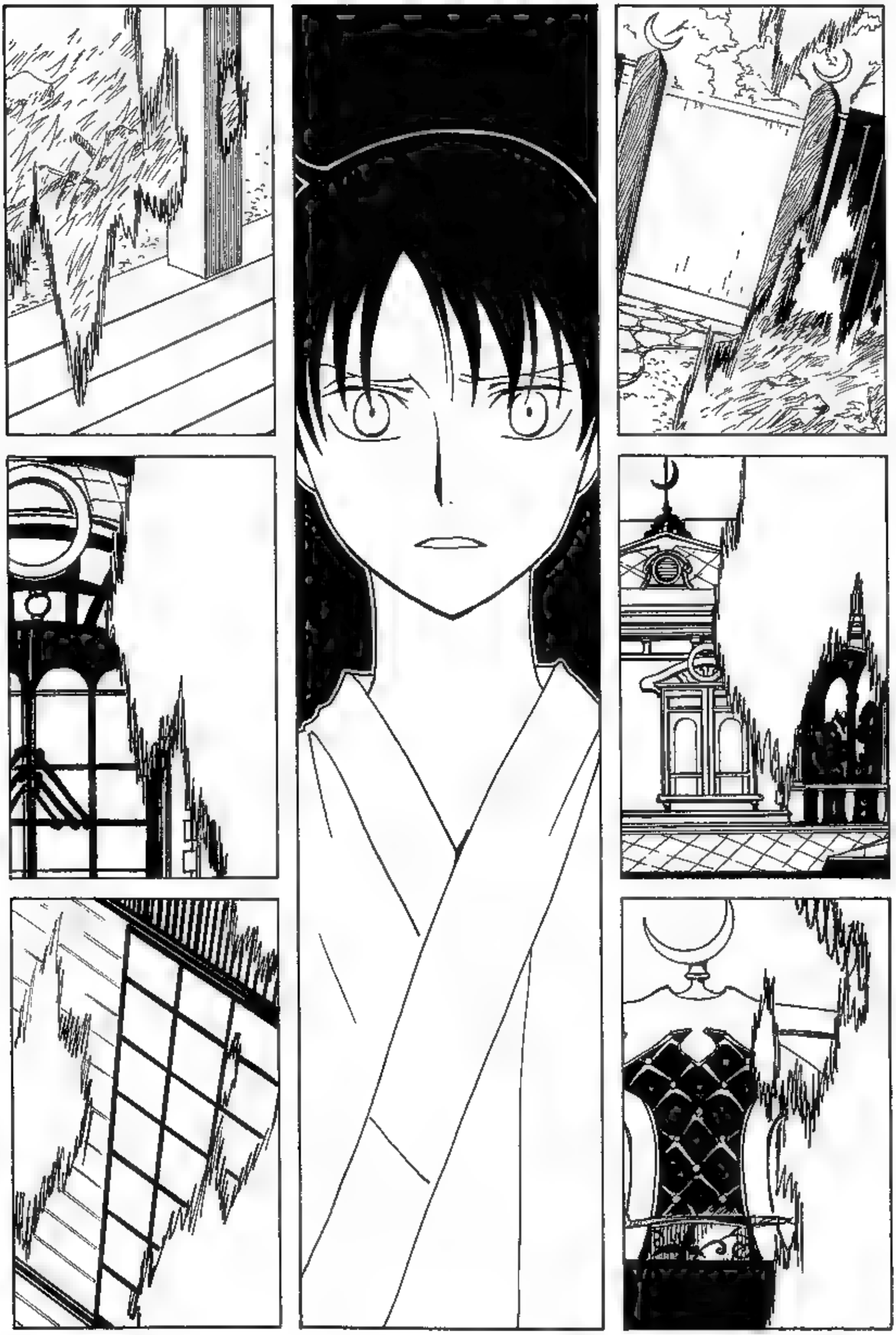
YUUKO-SAN!

<SFX> BAN (BAM)



<SFX> BA (SHOCK)

!?



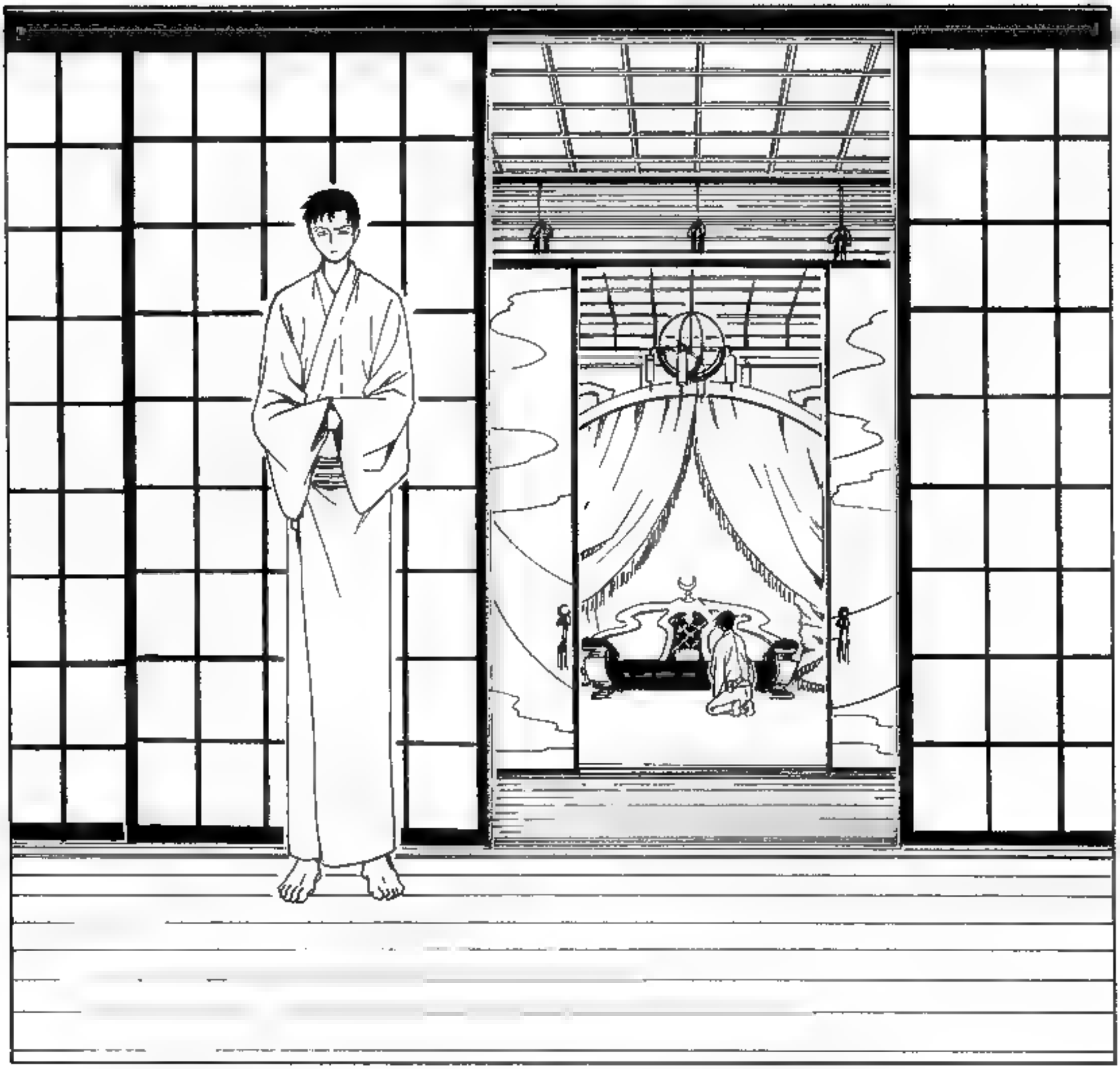
MORO!
MARU!?
MORO!?

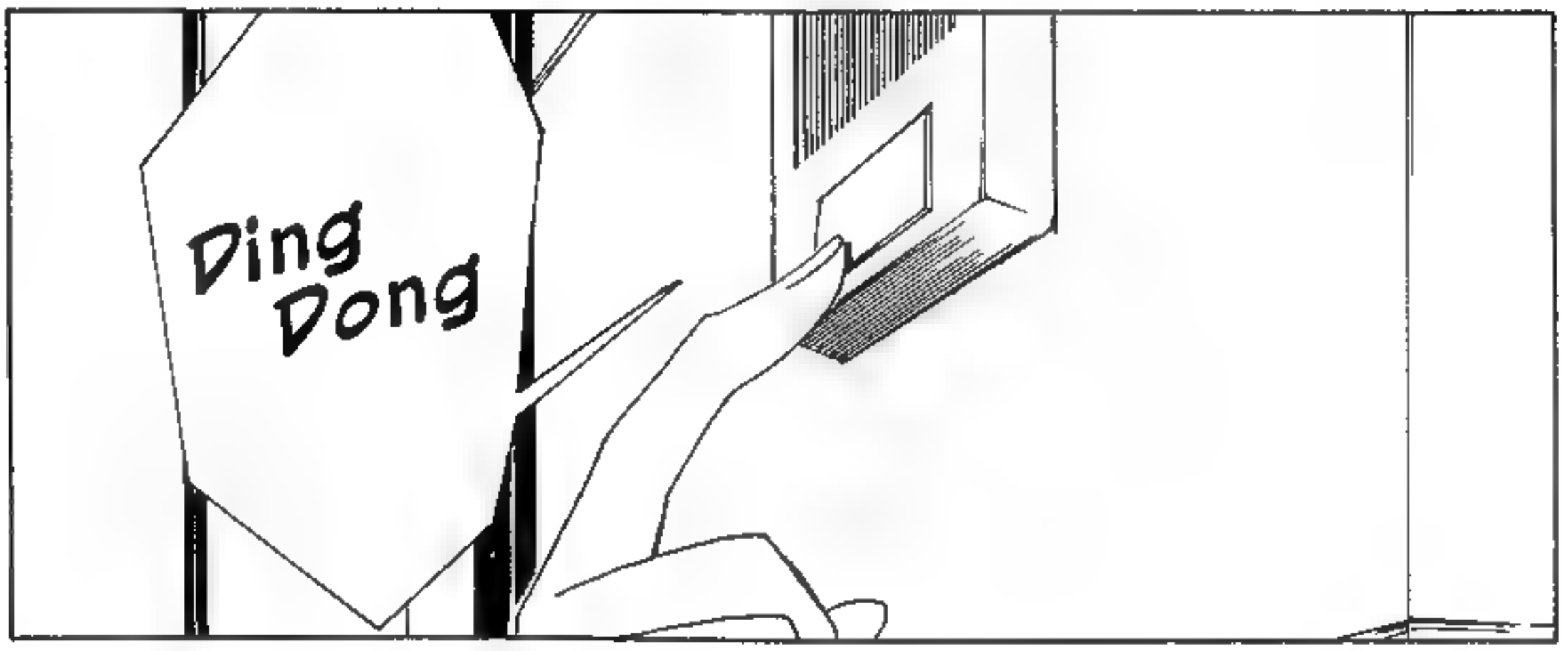
MOKONA...

<SFX> SURU (SHFF)

...YUUKO-SAN...

IF I GIVE EVERYTHING MY ALL,
WILL ALL OF YOU...




Ding
Dong

Ding Dong

...I WONDER IF SHE'S HOME?

...OR MAYBE...

SHE'S FINALLY HAD IT WITH ME.

<SFX> KII (CREAK)

AH...

I ATE THEM.

I'M SORRY,

I'VE BEEN BOTHERING YOU EVERY DAY...

HUH?

THE OMUSUBI THAT YOU MADE.

I ATE THEM.

AH, UM,

SO

HOW WERE THEY?

IT WAS HORRIBLE.

AFTER I ATE THE OMUSUBI THAT YOU MADE,

I TASTED MY OWN, AND...

...HUH?

THE OMUSUBI YOU MADE,

I COULD TASTE THE COMPASSION IN THEM.

I COULD SENSE THAT I WAS ON YOUR MIND WHILE YOU MADE THEM.

THAT'S WHY I FIGURED I SHOULD TRY BELIEVING IN WHAT YOU SAID TO ME.

THAT IF YOU COULD MAKE OMUSUBI LIKE THAT, THEN MAYBE YOU DO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

SO I TRIED SOME THAT I MADE MYSELF.

THEY WERE AWFUL.

AND WHEN I DID...

NO SUBSTANCE.

THEY WERE FINE TO LOOK AT,

BUT THEY HAD NO TASTE AT ALL.

NO CHARACTER.

NO,

I DIDN'T WANT TO EAT WHAT I'D MADE

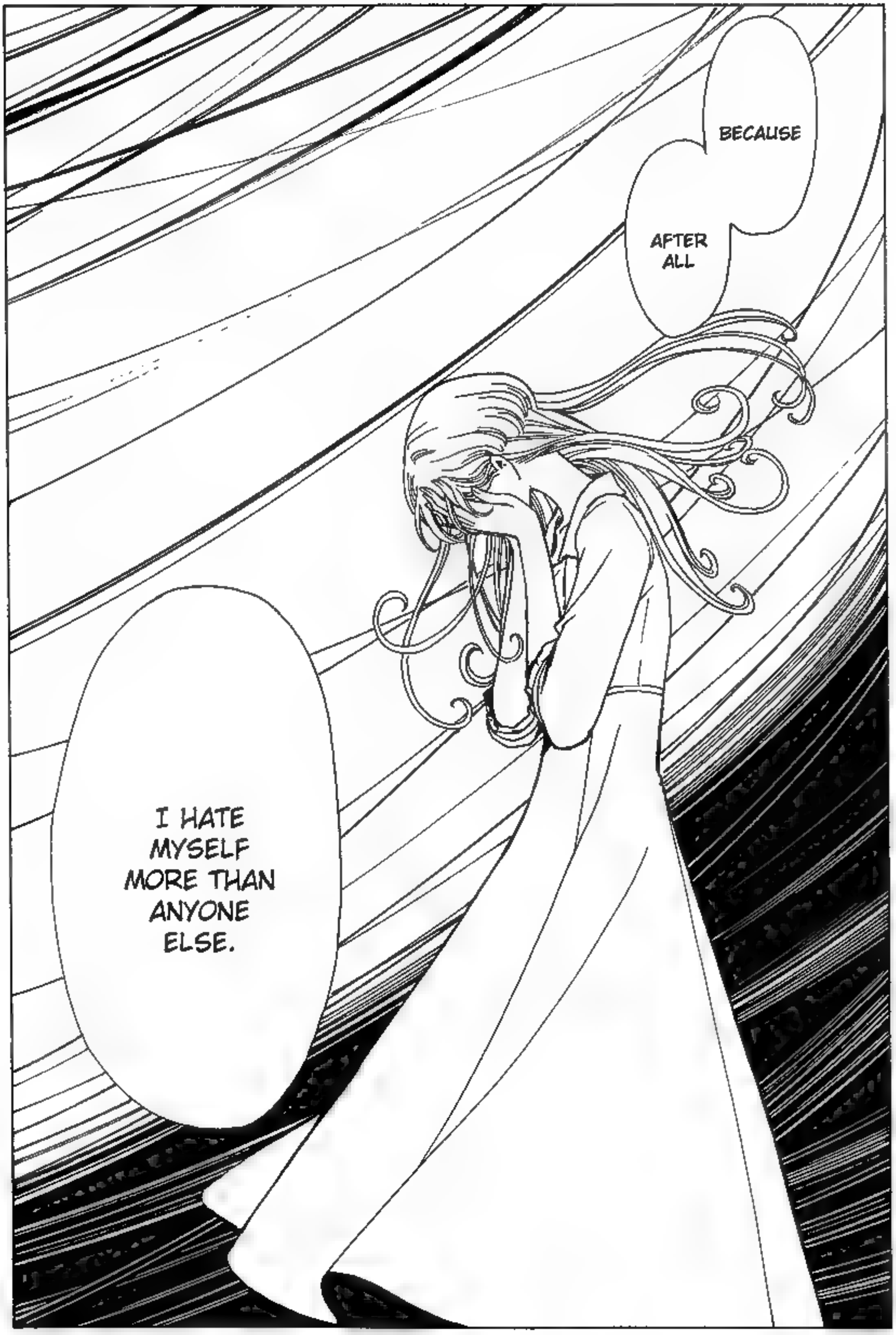
BECAUSE PERHAPS I ALREADY KNEW WHAT I WOULD FIND.

IF MY COOKING IS A REFLECTION OF MYSELF,

THEN I MUST BE EMPTY.

I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW

SOME-THING LIKE THAT.


BECAUSE
AFTER ALL
I HATE MYSELF MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE.

IT WAS NEVER MY INTENTION... TO HURT YOU.

...I'M SORRY.

I KNOW THAT.

I DID EAT YOUR OMUSUBI.

AFTER ALL,

THAT'S...

<SFX> SU (SHH)

THESE ARE OMUSUBI THAT I MADE.

ALL THIS TIME I'VE BEEN SERVING PEOPLE THIS HORRIBLE FOOD.

UNTIL NOW, I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW.

NO,

MAYBE I DID KNOW,

I FIGURED THAT IF YOU'RE GOING TO TEACH ME, THEN YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHO I AM,

SENSEI.

I THOUGHT ABOUT IT THE WHOLE NIGHT, WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT TO GIVE THESE TO YOU,

BUT,

THIS IS WHO I AM.

SENSEI...?

WILL YOU TEACH ME AGAIN?

TO COOK?

YES, I WANT YOU TO.

WELL,

YOU'RE SURE YOU WANT ME TO TEACH YOU?

BECAUSE YOU WERE THE ONE

WHO HELPED ME REALIZE THE TRUTH.

I TOLD MY FIANCE THAT PERHAPS WE SHOULD CANCEL IT,

...MY WEDDING...

SO,

PLEASE GUIDE ME ONCE MORE, SENSEI.

UNTIL I FIND MY OWN FLAVOUR.

AND HE SAID

HE WOULD WAIT FOR ME,

<SFX> GYU (HUG)

BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO MAKE HIM EAT THIS SORT OF COOKING EVERY DAY.

IT WOULD BE MY PLEASURE!

THIS IS ENOUGH.

BUT THE TASTE IS REALLY...

OH, RIGHT.

PAYMENT FOR THE LESSONS...

<SFX> SU (SHH)

AND THAT MEANS A LOT TO ME.

IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE LETTING ME LEARN WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE.

...YEAH.

COOKING SEEMS REALLY IMPORTANT TO YOU.

IT WAS YOUR COMPASSION THAT MOVED ME TO CHANGE.

YOUR COMING HERE EVERY DAY,

NAH.

IT'S JUST THAT I DIDN'T KNOW HOW ELSE TO GO ABOUT IT.

I'M SURE YUUKO-SAN WOULD HAVE DONE IT DIFFERENTLY.

THAT SHOP,

I HEARD THAT IT'S GOT SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE THAT CAN GRANT ANY WISH.

BUT THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT.

SHE'LL SCOLD ME FOR SURE.

I TOOK SO LONG,

AND I EVEN MADE YOU CRY.

BUT YUUKO-SAN MIGHT STILL NOT BE AROUND...

AH, RIGHT,

I'LL INVITE EVERYONE OVER AGAIN.

NEXT TIME, LET'S MAKE OMUSUBI AND EAT THEM TOGETHER.

YUUKO-SAN...?

I JUST WORK THERE.

SEE,

THE OWNER OF THE SHOP.

OWNER...

ICED TEA.

YOU SAT DOWN TO TEA WITH HER.

I GUESS YOU COULD CONSIDER HER A BEAUTIFUL LADY.

SHE HAS LONG, PITCH BLACK HAIR.

I'M SORRY,

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.

HUH?

YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I MET AT THAT SHOP.

THERE WAS NO ONE IN THAT SHOP, OTHER THAN YOU.

...HOW CAN THAT BE...?

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO HANDLED MY REQUEST.

REALLY,

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I MET AT THAT SHOP.

AND DOU-MEKI-KUN.

AH, WATA-NUKI-KUN.

AH...

ON YOUR WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL?

DO YOU HAVE TIME TO STOP FOR A CUP OF TEA?

LONG TIME NO SEE!

THAT'S ABSURD.

SHOP?

NO...

I NEED TO...

GET BACK TO THE SHOP...

YUUKO-SAN'S...

YUUKO-SAN?

WHO'S THAT?

<SFX> DA (DASH)

WAIT!

WATANUKI-KUN?

THEY DON'T KNOW YUUKO-SAN!

HOW CAN THAT BE...!?

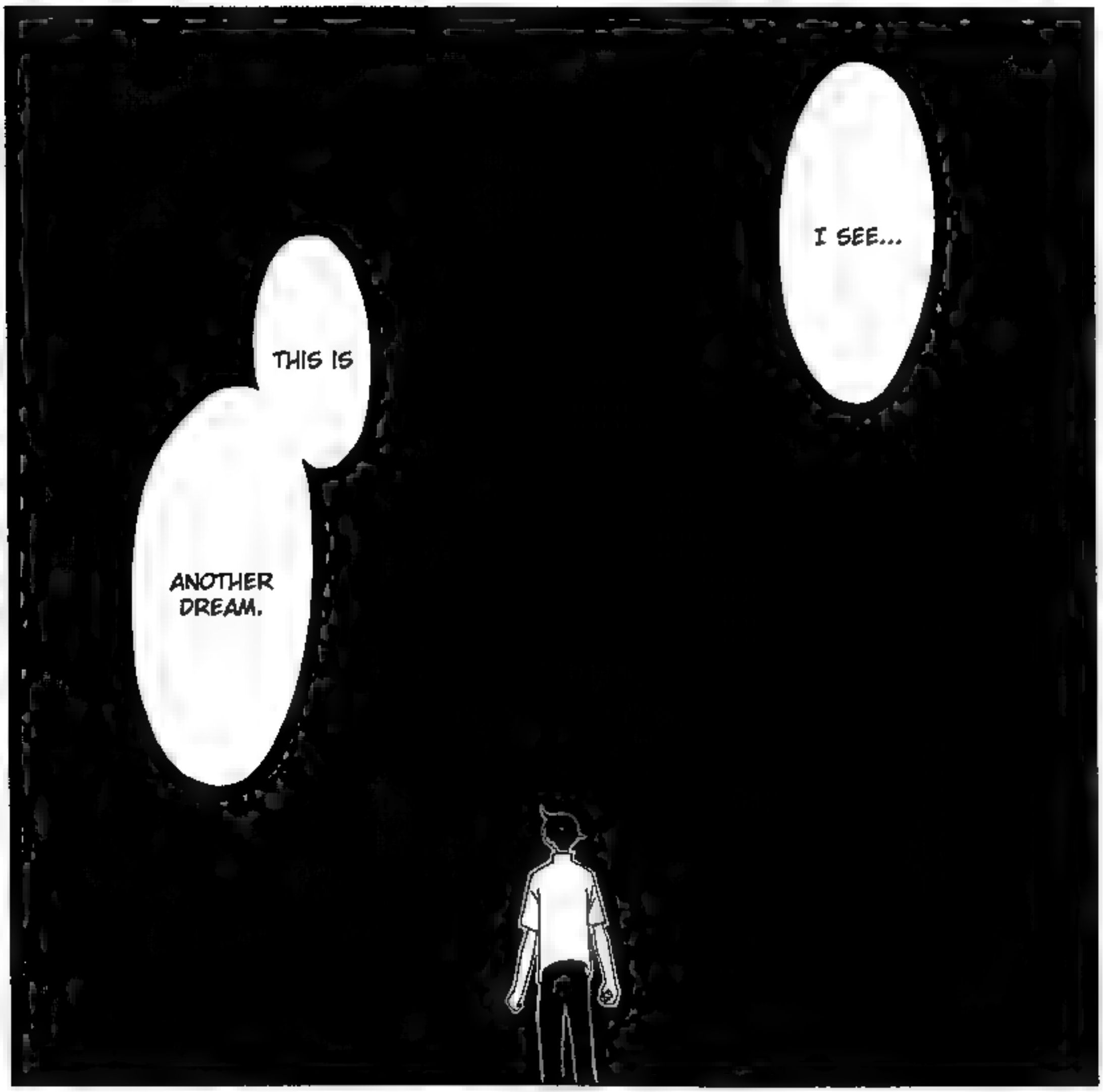
SEE?

THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE...!

THE SHOP IS STILL RIGHT HERE!

<SFX> TA (STEP)

...HUH?


I SEE...
THIS IS
ANOTHER DREAM.

I HOPE I'M AT LEAST IN THE SHOP OR SOMETHING,

AND NOT OUT ON THE STREET.

BUT DOES MY DREAM HAVE TO BE DARK LIKE THIS?

I WONDER WHEN I FELL ASLEEP?

HAHA,

RIGHT,

THAT MUST BE IT.

IT COULD AT LEAST BE A NICER SCENE,

OR A MORE INTERESTING SITUATION.

WELL?

EVEN THIS IS AN IMPROVE-MENT.

OH WELL, COMPARED TO BEFORE, WHEN IT ALL FELT LIKE REAL LIFE,

ABOUT YUUKO-SAN...

NOBODY KNEW

THAT MUST ALSO HAVE BEEN A DREAM.

...NO.

IT ISN'T A DREAM.

WHY

WHY CAN'T I MOVE?!

YUUKO-SAN!

<SFX> SU (SLOOP)

<SFX> ZUZU (SHLOOP)

YUUKO-SAN!

THE TIME THAT WAS STOPPED HAS BEEN SET INTO MOTION ONCE MORE.

THIS IS REALITY. THIS IS NOW.

WHAT IS THAT?!
NO, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT HAPPENED?
W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

...YUUKO-SAN.

BECAUSE THIS IS NOT THE "TIME" THAT YOU USUALLY MOVE IN.

DAMN IT!
WHY CAN'T I MOVE!?

YOU SEE, A CERTAIN PERSON

ONCE WISHED THAT I WOULD REMAIN RIGHT HERE.

THAT WISH WAS SO STRONG

THAT I BECAME SOMETHING THAT DID NOT DISAPPEAR.

I SHOULD NOT EVEN EXIST AT ALL.

I SHOULD HAVE DISAPPEARED LONG AGO.

HOWEVER,

NOW, THE CHOICE HAS BEEN MADE, AND TIME HAS BEGUN TO MOVE ONCE MORE.

THAT IS WHY I MUST ALSO MOVE FORWARD.

...YUUKO-SAN...

FOR THE TWO WORLDS,

AND THE TWO FUTURES.

THE STRENGTH OF THAT WISH WAS SO STRONG THAT TIME CAME TO A HALT.

AND I WAS CAUGHT IN THAT HALTED TIME.

I DON'T GET THIS AT ALL!

WAIT A MINUTE!

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?

OTHER WORLDS?! TWO OF THEM?!

LIKE I EVEN CARE ABOUT ANY OF THAT!

THE ONLY WORLD THAT I CARE ABOUT
IS THE ONE THAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!

CHOICE?
WHAT CHOICE?

I HAVEN'T DECIDED ANYTHING!

THEN WHY?

IF IT WASN'T MY CHOICE,

WHY...?!

WHY WASN'T I INVOLVED IN A CHOICE WHICH AFFECTS SOMEONE I CARE FOR DEARLY?!

...TRUE.

EVEN BEFORE YOU WERE BORN,
FOR A LONG TIME NOW,
HOW-EVER,

I'VE BEEN DEAD.

I'VE HAD SO MANY ENCOUNTERS, WITH THOSE WHO ARE HUMAN AND CREATURES WHO AREN'T.

I-

I-

AND WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH.

I MET YOU, YUUKO-SAN,

WH-

WHAT ARE YOU...

SAYING?

WE HAD SO MANY HARD TIMES, AND SO MANY GOOD TIMES...

I'VE CHANGED IN SO MANY WAYS.

BUT, THAT WAS ALL BECAUSE I MET YOU!

...THANK YOU.

THOSE DAYS HAVE NOW COME TO AN END.

I FULFILLED WISHES AT THE SHOP FOR THE SAKE OF THE DAY THAT HAD TO COME.

I WILL GRANT YOUR WISH AS WELL.

WATANUKI.

WHEN I DISAPPEAR, THAT EYE OF YOURS WILL NO LONGER SEE SPIRITS,

AND SPIRITS WILL NO LONGER BE DRAWN BY YOUR BLOOD.

I'VE BEEN WORKING HARD!

WHAT-

THE SHOP-

WHAT ABOUT THE SHOP?

HOW-

THIS IS-

TOO SUD-DEN!

THAT LADY THAT YOU HAD ME DEAL WITH,

AND SHE WANTS ME TO GIVE HER COOKING LESSONS AGAIN!

I'VE SOMEHOW CHEERED HER UP,

YOU HAD WANTED TO EAT IT, SO I PICKLED SOME UMEBOSHI!

AND SPEAKING OF FOOD!

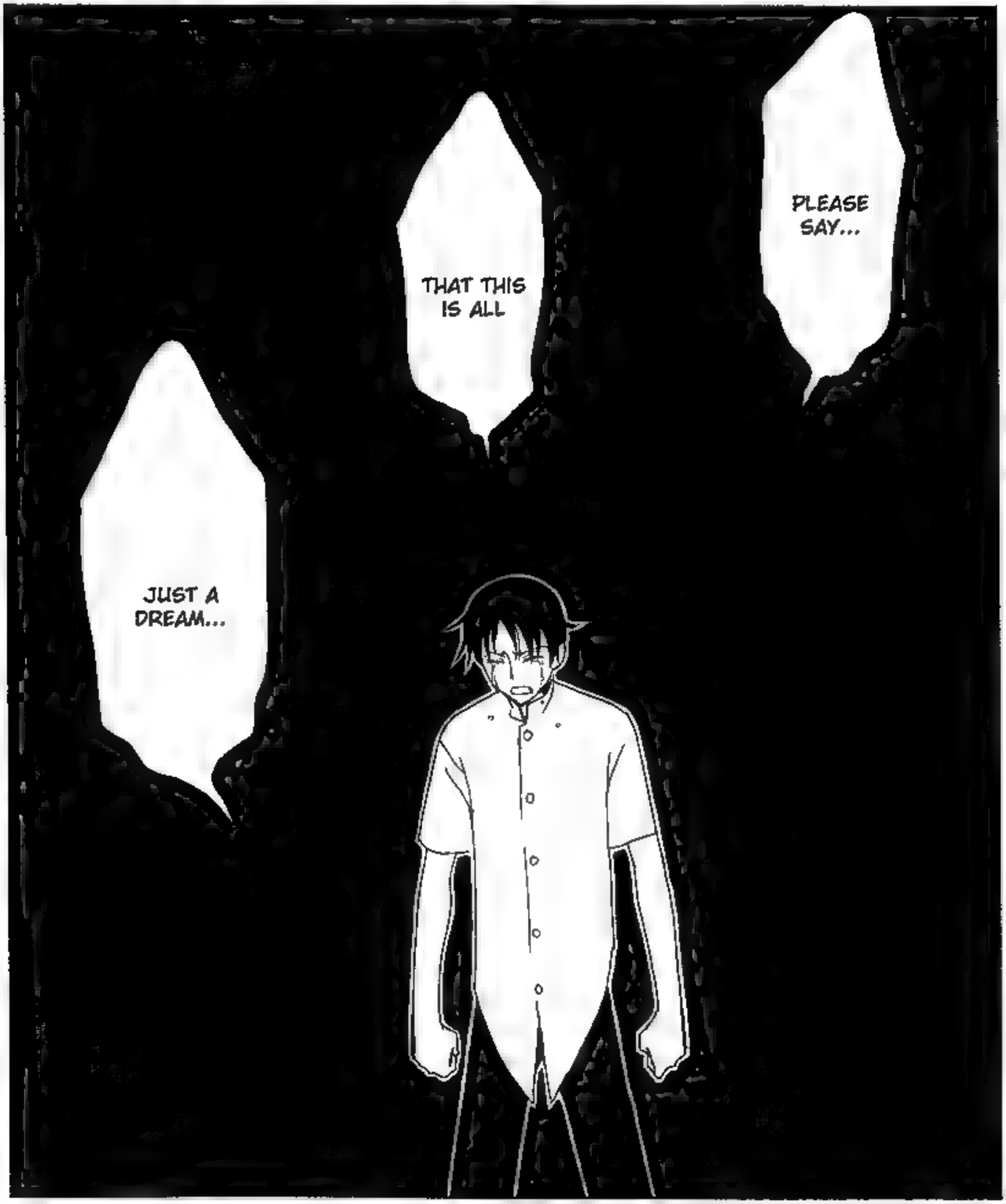
BUT HE CAN'T FINISH IT ALL HIMSELF!

DOUMEKI MAY BE A HEAVY DRINKER,

AND THE PLUM SAKE IS ALMOST RIPE FOR DRINKING,

AND THE WINE,

YUUKO-SAN...
YUUKO-SAN...
IF YOU AREN'T HERE,
IF YOU GO...


THAT THIS IS ALL
PLEASE SAY...
JUST A DREAM...

BECAUSE YOU'RE SOMEONE I CARE FOR DEARLY.

I COULDN'T LIE TO YOU LIKE THAT, WATANUKI.

<SFX> ZUZU (SHLOOP)

...W-WAIT, PLEASE!

THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY!

THIS-

THIS-

<SFX> GUGU (TUG)

THERE HAS TO BE!

SOMETHING!

SOME WAY!

YOU'RE RIGHT HERE, IN FRONT OF ME,

TELL ME HOW!

I WOULD LOVE TO GRANT YOU THAT WISH,

...DON'T GO...

...WATANUKI.

IT'S NOT SOMETHING I CAN DO.

BUT,

YUUKO-SAN'S WISH.

I PROMISED.

I SAID I WOULD GRANT IT...

...I STILL HAVEN'T GRANTED YOUR WISH.

MY WISH IS, WELL,

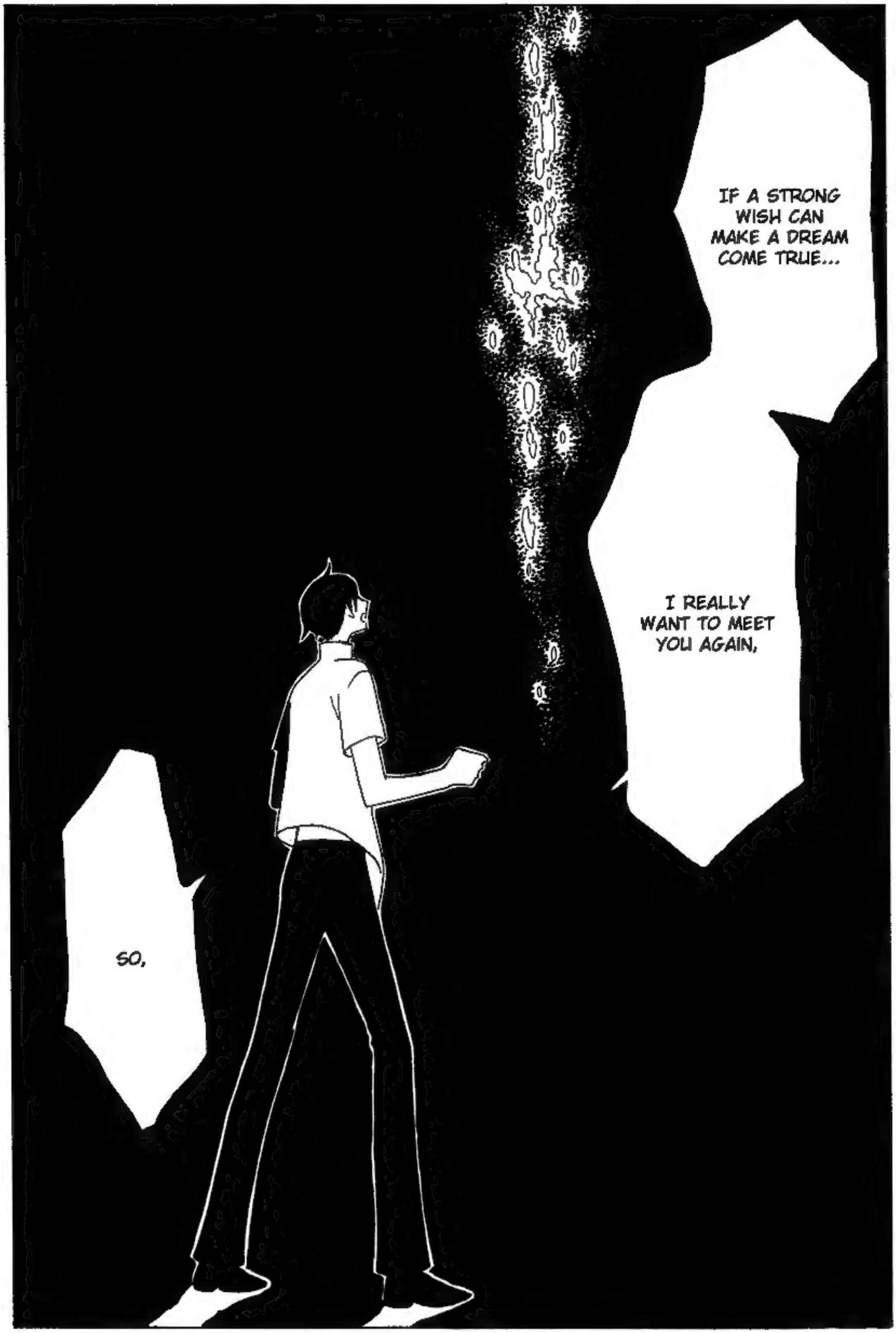
FOR YOU TO CARRY ON LIVING.

THAT'S ALL I WANT.

THEN,

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WISH FOR,

I'LL DEFINITELY GRANT IT.


IF A STRONG WISH CAN MAKE A DREAM COME TRUE...
I REALLY WANT TO MEET YOU AGAIN,
SO,

I'LL STAY HERE IN THIS SHOP, UNTIL THAT DAY COMES

WHEN I CAN MEET YOU AGAIN.